December 21, 1946

Please do not release until December 29, 1946

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1946. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute that there were 6 persons lynched in 1946.

This is 5 more than the number 1 for 1945; 4 more than the number 2 for the year 1944; 3 more than the number 3 for the year 1943; 1 more than the number 5 for the year 1942.

There are 4 borderline cases which are not included in the total number of lynchings for 1946 because to date sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained.

There were at least 17 instances in which lynchings were prevented. 14 of these were by officers of the law and 3 were by persons not connected with the law. 16 of these instances were in the Southern States and 1 was in the Northern States. A total of 22 persons, 21 Negroes and 1 white person, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the 6 persons lynched were Negroes. The offences charged were: stealing a saddle, 1 (two other persons later confessed this crime); stabbing a man, 1; no charge, 3 (were in automobile with one of the victims); attempting to break into a house, 1 (jailed, but later released).

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 1; Georgia, 4; Louisiana*, 1.

Very truly yours,

F. D. Patterson

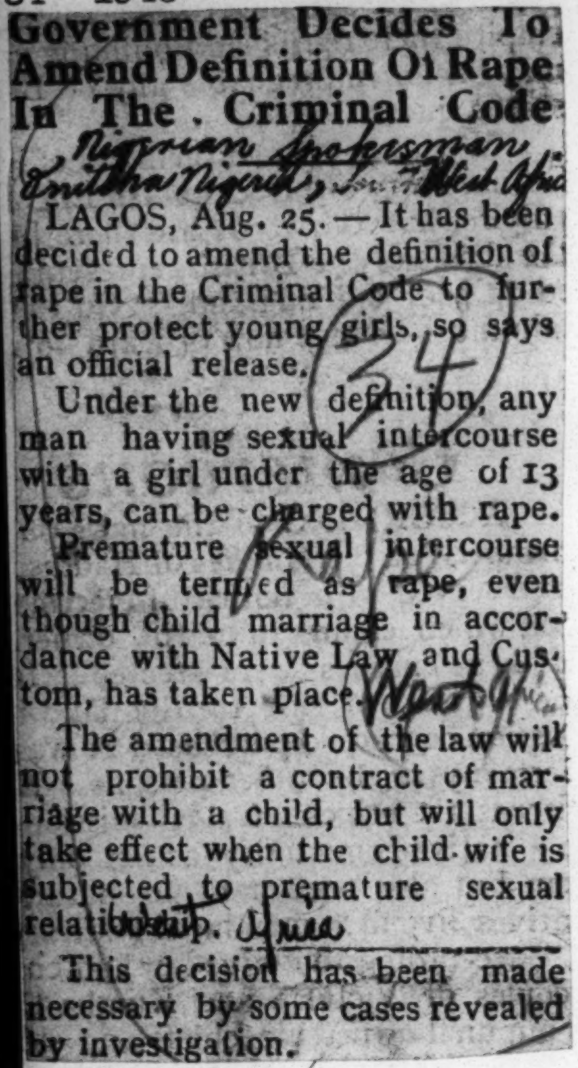
President

*Another victim of the same mob later regained consciousness and escaped.

34 1946

Rape (West Africa)

7465



Government Decides To Amend Definition Of Rape In The Criminal Code

Nigerian Spokesman, Onitsha Nigeria, West Africa

LAGOS, Aug. 25. — It has been decided to amend the definition of rape in the Criminal Code to further protect young girls, so says an official release.

34

Under the new definition, any man having sexual intercourse with a girl under the age of 13 years, can be charged with rape.

Rape

Premature sexual intercourse will be termed as rape, even though child marriage in accordance with Native Law and Custom, has taken place.

West Africa

The amendment of the law will not prohibit a contract of marriage with a child, but will only take effect when the child-wife is subjected to premature sexual relationship.

West Africa

This decision has been made necessary by some cases revealed by investigation.

Adjournment Prevents Anti-Lynching Bill

[illegible]

WASHINGTON—The latest outburst of mob violence near Monroe has done more than anything that has happened in a decade to undermine the efforts of Southern Congressmen to prevent passage of a Federal anti-lynch law.

No similar incident in recent years has so aroused Congress as the one at Monroe.

There is little doubt that swift action would be forthcoming on an anti-lynch bill, if Congress were not on the verge of adjournment. It would probably be more drastic than anything of the kind yet proposed.

As it is, the subject seems certain to be revived with great force when the new Congress convenes. January will be the next meeting date, unless the need for emergency legislation forces a special session in the interim.

During the past 20 years Southern Congressmen have had to be continually on the alert to prevent passage of stringent laws aimed at lynching. One of the first was the so-called Lodge Force Bill, proposed back in the days of the Harding administration.

None of the bills has ever succeeded in reaching a final vote in the Senate. Southern Senators have been able to ward off a vote by the use of filibuster tactics. In this they have been aided by outside members who generally saw in the bills a political maneuver.

Demands Grow Liberal elements of the country, particularly those embracing Negro memberships, have long put up a clamor for a Federal anti-lynch law. The demands have grown more vociferous with each new incident of mob violence, whether it was in the South or elsewhere.

But the inspiration of all such bills has generally been some incident in the South. Southern Congressmen have protested that the law was aimed especially at their section.

What Southern Congressmen have objected to most in the bills was a provision giving the Federal Government authority to step into the case with its own investigators and prosecutors when State authorities failed to apprehend the instigators of lynchings.

That would mean that Federal authority would supersede State officials in cases of the kind. The FBI would be empowered to act, and the FBI usually gets its man. Moreover, trial would be in the Federal rather than in the State courts.

The South has been saved from drastic anti-lynch laws in the past only by virtue of the success of Southern members in waging filibusters.

These filibusters could not have been conducted with any degree of success, except for the tacit aid lent by other outside Senators in refusing to invoke cloture, the rule by which a limitation is placed on senatorial debate.

Filibuster Any one of the various anti-lynch bills would have commanded a majority in the past, if cloture had been imposed on debate. The bills were talked to death by the lack of cloture. The filibuster is the thing that has saved the section from the stringent provisions of such measures.

But so heinous was the crime committed near Monroe last week that it is doubtful that the old standards would prevail in the Senate. The South has lost many of its former friends because of the terrible incident in Georgia.

It was not merely that another lynching had taken place. Nor was it entirely that this marked the first multiple lynching that has occurred in a number of years. If it had been a mob outbreak resulting from the usual crime of rape, the circumstances might have been different.

It is fortunate for the South that Congress is on the verge of adjournment. An anti-lynch bill cannot be taken up because it would delay the program for adjournment indefinitely.

Otherwise there would be certain to arise the most determined demands that have yet been heard for an all-embracing law on the subject of lynching. And the bill, this time, would be sure to pass. No filibuster could stand up against the sense of outraged justice that prevails in Congress as a result of the Monroe incident.

There Is a River of Crime

Atlanta Const. 14 Aug 46

There is a river of crime that flows through our cities, towns and countryside . . . through our lives.

It is never-ceasing. It flows day and night.

Peace officers and court officials know it well.

Staid citizens summoned to grand jury service are dismayed, alarmed and shocked by the constant pressure of it.

In this ugly river are many monstrous objects. There are girls, themselves hardly more than children, with child by their own father. There are mothers who assist in the incestuous seduction of their daughters. There are parents who push their children into prostitution and thievery. There is cruel and bloody murder, rape, robbery, both petty and large, mean and bold in conception and execution.

Although this river flows endlessly, its horror being constant, it attracts little attention. It is only when it is a bit more turbulent than usual, tossing up on its evil banks some unusual horror, that the public becomes shocked into temporary concern. But even during the days of concern the river flows on, undiminished.

Law, the only weapon of society, struggles with it.

Difference Georgia's recent lynching has caused a natural, defensive reaction. Some persons ask why it is any worse than murders in Chicago, New York or other regions of the nation. Some want to know why the newspapers and radio commentators do not become equally opposed to such crimes. Still others, revealing themselves unknowingly, ask why Negro crime does not arouse as much comment. All this serves to illustrate how wide a gulf there is between the crime of lynching and the crime of murder and assault.

Certainly all crime is horrible and evil. Assuredly all murder and assaults demand the full penalty of the law. But note that juries often find, in seeking justice, mitigating circumstances. The law itself requires the search for a motive; is interested that premeditation be proved; searches for the intent.

Only the thoughtless will argue that all crime is crime and the Georgia lynchings no different from a gangster killing in Chicago or a murder in Los Angeles.

The thoughtful citizen will recognize at once that when a crime of murder or violence is committed, the law begins to act. Police officers hunt out the suspects. A grand jury hears the evidence and, if it is sufficient, indicts. A jury is selected. Witnesses are called. The case is heard. The verdict is rendered. The guilty are properly sentenced to die or to go to prison.

Lynchings grow out of different motives. The law is not in operation. It is defied. There is no question about premeditation and intent. They always are premeditated. The intent is to defy the law and to kill. The intent is to thwart justice, not obtain it. Grand juries, trial juries, courts, the whole system of law and order by which society lives, is ignored and weakened.

Murder of gangsters by gangsters for muscling in on rival bootleg territories, narcotic rings; sex crimes by perverts and unbalanced minds such as recently horrified Chicago and the nation—all these come under the heading of crime for which the law and the courts are provided with a code and approved measures. There is an obvious, and vast, difference between their horror and the horror of lynchings.

Penalty Students of criminology, psychologists, grand juries, judges, and other interested persons and organizations, have learned that crime by whatever persons must bear the exact burden of the law lest there be bred a disrespect for law.

The percentage of Negro crime everywhere is high. There are several reasons for it. One of the regional reasons is that too many juries and judges persist in regarding it as "just another Negro crime or killing." Grand juries everywhere in the South frequently have called attention to the fact this creates less fear and respect for the law. The full penalty of the law should apply to these crimes as well as to others.

In denouncing all crime as horrible, harmful and reprehensible; in asking the full penalty, even the death penalty if the law provides it and the guilt is found, we nevertheless cannot ignore the false argument that they are in the same category as lynchings. One strikes at individuals and the machinery of the law becomes active. The other strikes at a whole society and its foundation of law and order. The machinery of the law is wrecked and broken and man's plan for governing and disciplining himself is defied.

Let us not be led into defending either.

G.O.P.'s For Cloture On Lynch Bill

C. A. May 18 '40

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A "substantial majority" of Republican senators will vote for cloture (limitation of debate) on the anti-lynching bill, according to an announcement by Senator Charles L. McNary, senate Republican leader, this week.

Sen. McNary authorized the following direct quotation from him: "A substantial majority of Republican senators will vote for cloture if the debate is unreasonably prolonged."

Sen. McNary said his announcement followed a poll he had taken of his Republican colleagues.

Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. secretary, was here this week conferring with senate leaders, including sponsors of the anti-lynching bill, in a desperate effort to secure a date for taking up the bill before congress adjourns early in June.

1946

Of Negro Jails Six

Atlanta Const. July 31, 946

LEXINGTON, Miss., July 30—(UP)—Six white Mississippi landowners have been charged with murder in the fatal flogging of a Negro whose body was later dumped in a bayou, County Att. Pat M. Barrett disclosed Tuesday.

The Negro, Leon McTatie, 35, was beaten with a leather strap and a buggy whip, according to Mrs. Dixie Roberts, wife of one of the accused.

The flogging occurred on July 22, Barrett said, and McTatie's body was found floating two days later, clad in blue jeans, in a bayou 60 miles away near Indianola in Sunflower County. The body was discovered by a Negro fisherman setting hooks.

Tuskegee Institute said McTatie's death would be recorded as a lynching, the second in the South in 10 days. Four Negroes were shot to death by a lynch mob near Monroe, Ga., last Thursday.

McTatie was a tenant on the 300-acre farm of Dixie Roberts, one of the accused white men.

Mrs. Roberts quoted her husband as saying that he and her father-in-law, Vernon Vale, went to McTatie's tenant house after other Negroes had accused him of stealing a saddle.

They beat him with a leather strap and buggy whip, she said, and told him to "go on down the road." This meant, she said, to get off the farm.

Roberts told his wife the four other men held in the flogging were not involved, but were arrested with him and Vale as all were returning to Lexington from an inspection of Roberts' plantation.

All were being held without bond.

Barrett identified the other four men as Jeff Dodd, owner of the saddle which McTatie allegedly had stolen; Jeff Dodd, Jr., Spencer Ellis and James E. Roberts, nephew of Dixie Roberts.

Sheriff W. L. Murtagh said it was "evident" the Negro was thrown from a car into the bayou, but Roberts denied this.

Murtagh disclosed that on Friday, July 19, Dodd had sworn out a warrant for McTatie's arrest, charging that he had stolen a saddle. McTate was jailed.

The next day, Saturday, Dodd

Continued From First Page

made bond for the Negro, the Sheriff said, stating that "I need him to help me make my cotton crop."

On Monday the alleged flogging took place. Two days later, McTatie's wife went to Murtagh and told him she feared her husband was dead because he had not been home since Monday. The same day that she was talking to the Sheriff, the body was found in the bayou 60 miles away.

Ironically, the Sheriff said, McTatie was not guilty of the theft of the saddle as two other Negroes later confessed they had stolen it.

Roberts Tuesday night acknowledged the Negro had been beaten but denied he had been killed.

"We whipped him and ordered him to leave this section," Roberts said. "The last we saw of him he was running down the road."

Sunflower County Sheriff E. W. Williams said there were no recognizable marks on the Negro's body when taken from the water.

The coroner, William Sais, returned a verdict of "cause of death unknown," and the body was buried in Sunflower County Potter's Field.

But it was exhumed under an order of Circuit Judge S. F. Davis and sent to Holmes County for an autopsy, Williams said.

Meanwhile, Speaker of the Mississippi House Walter Sillers said "a crime of that nature can only be described as reprehensible. It is to be regretted that any group, regardless of color, could commit such an act."

Mississippi's last lynching was on March 26, 1944, when a Negro minister, Rev. Isaac Simmons, was taken from his home near Liberty and shot to death by a mob.

Fighting Mad

Editor Constitution: Like thousands of other Americans, I feel a deep sense of shame for the bestial cold-blooded murder of four innocent human beings that took place at Monroe. But I am not only ashamed and humiliated. I am fighting mad. I want to do something tangible to help apprehend the despicable perverts who committed this foul murder. I am, therefore, offering $25 to be paid to the person or persons supplying the information necessary to convict the guilty parties.

I am not doing this to assuage my sense of guilt nor to attempt to buy off the vengeance of the dead, but rather in the hope that others—perhaps better fixed financially than I—will do the same. Only thus can we prove to the world and to ourselves that we are civilized human beings and that our democratic pretentions are not the hollow prattlings of vicious hypocrites.

May I suggest, therefore, that The Constitution solicit through its editorial columns similar rewards from decent right-thinking private individuals and that a record be made of these pledges. Only in this way, it seems to me, can the people of this State and this Nation do something tangible to help right an irreparable injustice that makes of civilization, Christianity and democracy a hollow mockery.

VICTOR BACKUS.
223 Chestnut St., S. W.

Sense of Outrage

Editor Constitution: We wish to commend the editorials in your colums of July 29 and 30, 1946, regarding the lynchings in Walton County on July 25, 1946.

As an organization whose members see daily the effects of fear, intolerance and injustice upon the people whom we serve, without regard to racial origin, we feel obligated to express our sense of outrage. We wish to join with other groups in urging that public consciousness be kept aroused until mob violence becomes impossible.

GRACE H. DICKS,
Chairman, Georgia Chapter
American Association of
Social Workers.
Atlanta.

Negroes Want Justice

Editor Constitution: We Negroes would like to see every single one of those cowards brought to justice. Not the usual justice Georgia has given to similar cases in the past. The kind of justice that would be given Negroes had they committed such crime.

ALBERT GRIGGS.
LaGrange.

The Constitution welcomes letters from its readers. They must be signed, should not exceed 200 words.

Stunned and Helpless

Editor Constitution: The Atlanta Metropolitan Council of Negro Women, affiliated with the National Council of Negro Women, the National Council of Women of United States, Inc., and the International Council of Women of the World, wishes to express its deep gratitude and sincere appreciation for the human, civilized and Christ-like attitude which you are showing and the untiring efforts which you are putting forth in the Walton County lynchings. We, the Atlanta Council of Negro Women, feel bereaved, stunned and utterly helpless.

The press editorials, the statements and expressions of the churches and right thinking individuals showing that Christ's teachings of good will, brotherhood and peace still live in spite of the orgies which make it seem otherwise, have encouraged and helped us.

Our voices join the millions of other voices of justice loving people in protesting this dastardly atrocity and urging that your efforts not stop until justice is meted out to the guilty parties. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, and all that is decent, right and human, we beseech you, and the good people of our State and Nation to use their minds and efforts to the utmost to assure Negro citizens and other helpless people their right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

LILLIAN B. GARNETT,
President the Atlanta Metropolitan Council of Negro Women.

Black Eye for State

Editor Constitution: Article XIV, Section I, of the Constitution says that a State shall not deny equal protection of the law to all persons within its jurisdiction. Georgia has accepted this Constitution and all that is written in it. But let us see how well she is upholding these laws that she gave allegiance to.

Just a few days ago, four citizens of Georgia were shot and killed in cold blood. These people were not given a trial or opportunity to defend themselves.

Georgia Bureau of Investigation, co-operating with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is trying hard to bring these lawbreakers to justice, but the law cannot get the right co-operation from the local inhabitants of Monroe.

If the citizens of Walton County are ever to be respected in these United States as good Americans, they should bring these criminals to justice. If these people fear for their own lives, they should remember that the law will give them full protection.

I know that the peace-loving citizens of Walton County as well as others in the entire United States regret and deplore this horrible atrocity.

The men responsible for these crimes must be brought to justice and they should be treated as common murderers.

Even though the guilty party is brought to justice, the South will have a black eye for years to come. How long will our State and our Government permit such things to happen?

HAROLD HARRIS
Marietta.

1946

Deputy Sheriff Held In Slaying of Negro

HATTIESBURG, Miss., July 30 (AP)—John Lewis, Deputy Sheriff of Covington County, was being held Tuesday in Forrest County jail here pending a premilinary hearing Wednesday in Collins on a murder charge which Mayor J. D. Arrington, of Collins, said was filed in connection with the fatal shooting of a 37-year-old Negro father of 10 children.

The Negro was identified by Mayor Arrington as Buddy Wolf. He said the shooting took place about 11 p. m. Saturday in a small store just west of Collins.

Mayor Arrington quoted Lewis as saying he fired on Wolf after the Negro attacked him. A group of Negroes was present when the shooting occurred, the Mayor said, but up to Tuesday morning none had made statements, and events leading up to the Negro's alleged attack on the deputy were not known.

Lewis was taken into custody Monday afternoon after Judge Jap Tims, of Collins, issued a murder warrant based on an affidavit sworn out by the dead Negro's wife, Mayor Arrington said.

FOR LYNCH PROBE ORDER; SAYS HIS FULL POWER IS BEHIND CASE

Black Dispatch 10 Aug 46

Orders Safety Director to Stay On Job In Walton County Until Crimes Are Solved

COURT OFFICIAL SAYS "BEST CITIZENS" ARE HELPING

ATLANTA — (ANP) — Gov. Ellis Arnall, Wednesday wired President Truman and other federal officials that he welcomes and appreciates federal aid in solving the four Walton county lynchings and punishing the murderers.

Georgia's chief executive promised the full cooperation of state authorities in solving the slaying and bringing the mob members to justice. He said he had instructed Maj. William E. Spence, director of the state department of public safety, to stay on the job himself in Walton county until the crimes are solved, and that Maj. Spence had assigned six officers of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to the job with him.

Around the capitol there were reports that the Federal Bureau of Investigation already has 12 operatives at work in Walton county and is sending 25 more on orders of Director J. Edgar Hoover.

(In Washington, the office of J. Edgar Hoover, FBI chief, refused to divulge the number of special agents working on the Monroe case, and a spokesman there told newsmen there was "no information regarding the report of threats against FBI men in Walton county.")

Handbills citing offers of a total of $14,000 in rewards for the apprehension of the mob members have been scattered in Walton and five adjoining counties. They have been placed in every mail box in five counties, according to Maj.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2, COL. 1)

See back

(5

Lynching Drop; Only 2 Mobbed In U. S. In 1944

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Tuskegee Institute's Department of Records and Research reported this week that only two lynchings occurred in the United States in 1944, one less than in 1943. Both lynch victims, they reported, were Negroes.

One of the victims, according to Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of the Institute, was a 66-year-old preacher-farmer who was shot to death by a Missilppi mob near his home for employing an attorney to safeguard his title to a debt-free farm through which an oil vein was believed to flow.

The second victim, a 17-year-old trusty of the Tennessee State Reformatory, was siezed from a jail and hot to death after he allegedly stabbed the daughter and wife of the reformatory superintendent to death.

The farmer was shot to death

(Continued from Page ONE-A-

LYNCHINGS DROP

(Continued from page ONE—A)

last summer. His son, who fled from Mississippi following the lynching, reported that the mob called the aged man from his home, drove him to a near-by woods, and cut his tongue out before riddling his body with bullets.

The youth had been imprisoned after his arrest on charges of murdering the reformatory superintendent's wife and daughter. Left in the custody of a daughter of the county sheriff, who was working in a nearby mill, he was taken from the jail by a group of men who identified themselves as officers, and shot him to death. It was reported recently that the governor of the state is still conducting an investigation of the youth's death, and three churches in the vicinity where the lynching occurred have offered rewards of more than $500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any memeber of the mob.

REIGN OF TERROR RIDES AGAIN AS EUGENE TALMADGE WINS IN GOVERNORSHIP RACE

Fla. Tattler 3 Aug 46

Four Negroes Lynched; Governor Arnall Big Hearted Christian and Hero

Governor Ellis Arnall, of Georgia, placed Georgia on the map, and has done everything humane and possible for the protection of all the people of Georgia. He has proven himself as the most outstanding governor in the United States, but since the people of Georgia voted Eugene Talmadge as their next governor, a reign of terror has already started.

It seems as if the hill-billies know that Talmadge approves of such acts as lynching and the like, and that they acted in hopes of being freed if caught.

Eugene Talmadge will ruin Georgia again if something drastic is not done before he gets into office.

We are in hopes that the Hon. Carmichael will run on an independent ticket and win as Georgia's next Governor.

Georgia has besmirched the good name of Governor Arnall in allowing the lynchers to escape and in voting in Eugene Talmadge as the next governor.

The solution to stop lynching:

1—Try lynching white people.
2—Chain lynch-victim to one of the lynchers and let him take the dead man around, sleep with him, eat with him, work with him.
3—Pass the Anti-Lynch Bill.
4—Hold the Sheriff responsible for every lynching and indict him for murder.
5—Make the town pay $50,000.00 for every victim.

We wish it was possible for a Georgia Governor to succeed himself since Governor Arnall has done everything in his power to make the State of Georgia safe for all mankind.

The $10,000.00 reward offered by Gov. Arnall will make someone talk and talk plenty before it's all over.

Hitler and his cohorts would not have pulled off such a disgraceful affair as the lynching of four defenseless poor Negroes.

DOWN WITH EUGENE TALMADGE AND HIS HILL-BILLY CUT-THROATS.

1946

Press Lynch Quiz, Truman Tells FBI

Atlanta Constitution

By GLADSTONE WILLIAMS,
Constitution Staff Writer.

July 31, 1946

WASHINGTON, July 30—Atty. Gen. Clark revealed here Tuesday that President Truman has directed that the full weight of the Department of Justice be thrown into the investigation of the mob slaying of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., last Thursday.

The Attorney General's revelation of determined Federal intervention was made in a formal statement issued by the Department of Justice during the afternoon. It followed an earlier conference between the Department head and the President.

"I have talked with the President regarding this case," Atty. Gen. Clark said, "and he has expressed to me his horror at the crime.

ALL RESOURCES

"He has asked that the Department report its progress in the investigation and proceed with all its resources to investigate this and any other crimes of oppression to ascertain if any Federal statute can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals."

Declaring "the full facilities of the Department of Justice are behind this investigation," Clark said the Federal Bureau of Investigation "has a sufficient force of agents on hand (presumably in Georgia) to provide a thorough probe."

He added also that the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice is being carried on "in the tradition of the FBI—with dispatch, efficiency and determination."

"EARLY SOLUTION"

Significantly, the Attorney General said "an early solution on the shocking murders" was hoped for.

The FBI inquiry into the Monroe slayings began last Friday, or as soon as the news of the crime reached Washington, the Department statement disclosed. It was ordered originally at the direction of the Attorney General.

Tuesday's announcement by the Attorney General came as a climax to a furore that has been raised in Washington since the Georgia mob slayings took place. The crime was the subject of an outbreak in Congress last week, when members of the House and Senate took the floor to demand that the Federal Government intervene in apprehending the criminals.

DEMANDS INTENSIFIED

Such demands have been intensified following a statement by the head of the Georgia State Bureau of Investigation that he was finding it difficult to develop the identity of members of the mob, due to the reluctance of persons in the area to discuss the case.

The White House also has been besieged with demands for action from the Civil Liberties League and similar organizations. Negro organizations staged a parade of protest to the White House Monday while Tuesday other delegations from the National Negro Congress invaded the Capitol Building and sought to impress their protests upon members of Congress.

The line of action to be undertaken by the Department of Justice was indicated in Attorney General Clark's statement, he said the full record of the FBI's investigation will be made available to the Governor of Georgia "for

Continued on Page 5, Column 1

LYNCHING

Continued From First Page

proper action of Georgia civil authorities."

This was taken to mean the FBI will undertake to apprehend the criminals and then turn the evidence over to State authorities for prosecution.

Disclosing the Department of Justice has received "hundreds of telegrams and letters from public spirited citizens and civic, religious, labor and veterans organizations from all sections of the country, deploring and protesting the mass murder," the formal statement of the attorney general follows in full:

"These communications are too numerous to be answered at once by my office. I am, therefore, making public, through the press, the progress of the immediate and complete Federal investigation which began, at my direction, last Friday, as soon as the news of the crime reached Washington.

"The Federal Bureau of Investigation has a sufficient force of agents on hand to provide a thorough probe and the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice is examining the legal and jurisdictional aspects of the case. The probe is being carried on in the tradition of the FBI with dispatch, efficiency, and determination. The full facilities of the Department of Justice are behind this investigation.

"We hope for an early solution of these shocking murders. The entire record of our investigation will be made available to the Governor of Georgia, if necessary, for proper action of Georgia civil authorities.

"This crime is an affront to decent Americanism. Only due process of law sustains our claim to orderly self-government. I call upon all our citizens to repudiate mob rule and to assist the authorities to bring these criminals to justice. The lives and liberties of none of us are safe when forces of terror operate outside the laws of God and man.

"I have talked with the President regarding this case and he has expressed to me his horror at the crime. He has asked that the Department report its progress in the investigation and proceed with all its resources to investigate this and any other crimes of oppression to ascertain if any Federal statute can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals."

James B. Carey, Secretary-Treasurer of the CIO, said in a wire to Mr. Truman that the Georgia lynchings places the nation "on trial."

Noting that Georgia officials admit their inability to find the "disgraceful mob responsible for the brutal massacre," Carey wrote:

"The full powers of your Administration must be used to prevent a continued domination of an intolerant, irresponsible Government, false to its duty as an elected Government, operating on the theory that nothing can be done when a mob of citizens sets aside the orderly process of justice

APPEAL FOR ANTI-LYNCH LAW

Black Dispatch
10 Aug 46

By Luther A. Townsley

CHICAGO — (ANP) — An appeal has gone up here for the immediate passage of the long-shelved anti-lynch bill following the Nazi-like lynching of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., last Thursday.

Displaying varying degrees of deep indignation, the number one subject of discussion here is the bestial execution of the Negro farm workers, of whom two were women. Execution of the women, wives of the two men, is characterized as a "fiendish atrocity." Even Negroes who have heretofore made excuses for the "white south" denounced the lynching of women.

One popular solution, slated to be discussed Monday evening during a mass meeting called by the Chicago council of the National Negro congress, is the immediate passage of the age old anti-lynch bill. Southern congressmen will have a most difficult time now to show cause why such a bill should not be enacted into law, local leaders believe.

Reactions to the Georgia lynching indicate that considerable confusion and doubt still exist in Negro minds as to whether they should openly oppose reaction and all reactionary elements of whether they should leap to the support of so-called radicals, people who pubicly champion their cause along with the cause of all minorities. According to their replies to questions, they are aware that the lynching in Monroe, Ga., had all the earmarks of Nazi-fascist atrocities.

Negroes are also quite aware that Georgia is seething with fascist elements, which include the hooded-underground knights of the Ku Klux Klan and the recently nominated Gov. Eugene Talmadge. Young Gov. Ellis Arnall whose progressive leadership catapulted Georgia to the south's most advancedstate, is courageously attempting to neutraliz much of this fascist virus, but not even his $10,000 reward for the lynchers will likely be effective to bring the culprits to justice.

Lynching records show that 3,703 Americans of both races died by the mob's ropes between 1889 to 1929. According to the same records, Negroes escaped the lynch mob during slavery, because Negro slaves represented an investment in dollars and cents. On the basis of an economic analysis of lynching, J. E. Cutler, author of "Lynch Law," a book published in 1905, discovered that "more than half of the persons lynched prior to 1860 were white, and since the end of the Civil War the proportion of Negro victims has been in the increase."

Since Lincoln's Emancipation proclamation, lynching has been used as an intimidation weapon against Negroes. Some excuse is found to lynch a Negro every now and then in the rural south as a means of frightening other Negroes into submission to the will of "white supremacy." Of the 2,900 Negroes lynched between 1889 and 1929, only 16⅔ percent were charged with sexual crimes against white women.

"It is notable that no accusation had been made against S. S. Mincey, lynched at Ailey, Ga., in 1930, other than that he had been too active in his opposition to the county lily-white Republican organization," reported the Southern commission on the Study of Lynching several years ago. "There was no accusation against Lacy Mitchell, lynched near Thomasville, Ga., 1930, other than he was the star witness against two white boys charged with raping a Negro woman. In the cases of several others lynched in 1930 there is grave doubt whether they were guilty of the crimes of which they were accused."

A Talmadge regime in Georgia has been prophesied to usher in an era of lynch terror. The state was seized by a lynch epidemic during his last term in the governor's mansion. Popular sentiment here is that only the immediate passage of anti-lynch law will curb another Talmadge-lynch regime in Georgia, and probably serve to block a general uprising of lynchings throughout the south.

GEORGIA ADMITS IT CAN'T SOLVE LYNCHING; ASKS FEDERAL HELP

Black Dispatch — 10 Aug 46

ATLANTA — (ANP) — Georgia's inability to cope with the situation at Monroe's quadruple lynching was admitted Sunday by Maj. W. E. Spence, director of the Georgia Department of Public Safety after two days of investigation by the GBI.

Said Spence: "We need federal backing. With conditions that now exist in Georgia we can't cope with them."

The first suspect arrested in the massacre of two Negro men and their wives was quickly released Saturday night upon the failure of J. Loy Harrison, prosperous Oconee county white farmer, only witness to the lynching, to identify him as "the leader."

Spence announced he was prepared to urge passage of a federal anti-lynch law and would lay his case before Gov. Ellis Arnall as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, the governor expressed a determination to apprehend the armed, unmasked mob and deliver them to local authorities for trial. He announced Saturday the state would pay $500 for each of the approximately 20 white slayers—the maximum reward authorized by law. He pointed out the total will be more than $10,000. Other rewards were offered by the Civil Rights congress in New York, $1,000; the Southern Regional council, $500, and the American Civil Liberities' union $1,000.

Funerals for the three of the victims in the ambush slaying of the four principals were held Sunday at churches in Monroe and Oconee county. The rites were attended by thousands, some of whom had visited the funeral parlor where the bodies lay for public view of both white and black.

The victims, Roger Malcolm, his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Malcolm, George Dorsey and Mrs. Mae M. Dorsey were riding in an automobile with J. Liy Harrison when the mob of white men halted them at bridge over the Apalachee river late Thursday afternoon. Malcolm had been released only about half an hour earlier from the Monroe county jail where he had been incarcerated some two weeks previously on account of stabbing his employer, B. H. Hester Jr.

At the scene of the lynching at Moore's Ford bridge, less than 75 feet from the Oconee county line, Harrison told the following story to a jury impaneled by Walton county coroner Tom Brown and Deputy Sheriff C. J. Sorrells:

Harrison said he carried the Dorsey couple and their sister, Mrs. Malcolm, to Monroe around 2 o'clock Thursday to gain Roger Malcolm's release. They stayed around town until 5 o'clock, during which time Harrison said he was getting his car repaired. Dorsey's release was gained and the quintet proceeded to Harrison's farm.

Harrison drove along a side road which he said was a short cut to his Oconee ciunty farm, avoiding the main Monroe-Athens Highway. When he and the four Negroes reached the Monroe's Ford bridge, a car blocked the road. Suddenly another car filled with white men drove up and from the bushes and behind trees sprang out approximately 20 whites armed with pistols, rifles and shotguns.

The mobsters ordered the car stopped, and pulled out Malcolm and Dorsey, tying their hands and pushing them down a road beside the river. Harrison said the mob forced him to move away from the car.

As the white men marched the men away, Mrs. Malcolm apparently recognized one of the mobsters and addressing him by name asked that he not let them kill her husband.

Then the leader of the mob is said to have yelled: "I guess you better bring those damn women along too."

After marching the quartet to a spot some distance away, the leader ordered them linedup and after counting, "one, two, three!" bellowed "fire" which sent three volleys of lead and steel through the bodies of the victims. The blasts were concentrated that parts of the head and thorax were torn away.

Harrison said that after the shooting he was released and told that he was not to recognize anyone there. He later notified the sheriff.

At the inquest, Harrison testified that he was unable to identify any of the mob, that he was shielded from view. The cornor's jury returned a verdict of death at the hands of unknown parties.

It was the same old story, the same old pattern, but this time it sent an unusual shock through the state and nation.

Gov. Ellis Arnall immediately ordered Maj. Spence and the GBI to stay in Walton county until the crime was solved. From Washington, Atty. Gen. Tom Clark ordered the FBI to the scene.

After a day of investigation, Maj. Spence said it appeared to him that the lynching was a planned affair.

According to authentic sources, the stabbing of Hester is regarded as the background of the lynching. The white men reportedly intervened in a fight between Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm. Mrs. Malcolm is reported to have gone to Hester's home and told him about the family altercation. During that heat of an argument, Malcolm is reported to have told Hester that he heard that Hester had been going with his wife. The two men scuffled and Hester was stabbed.

It was reported that immediately after the stabbing a group of white men went to Malcolm's home and threatened to kill him, whereupon a white woman interceded and called the sheriff. This woman is said to have told the men that Malcolm was a good boy and wouldn't bother anyone unless they bothered him.

The rise of Talmadgeism, however, was looked upon as the contributing factor to the mass lynchings. During the recent campaign, the nominee stirred up Walton and Oconee counties with his hate talks, but failed tocarry Monroe.

full

unch Crusade To End Lynching

The Informer Houston, Tex.

Sat 9-7-46

NEW YORK — (ANP) — A group of prominent Americans of both races banded together in a fight to have the rising wave of lynchings in the south, demanding that government action be taken to apprehend and punish lynchers, enact federal anti-lynching legislation, and to have such legislation enforced by law enforcement agencies.

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This group, known as the American Crusade to End Lynching, includes Paul Robeson, Prof. Albert Einstein, Lena Horne, Bartley Crum, Dr. D V Jemison, Lloyd K. Garrison, Reid Robinson, and Robert Kenny. Plans have been laid for a concentrated march on the nation's capital, by thousands of citizens, church groups, labor unions, veteran groups, and civic and fraternal bodies to protest the recent mass lynchings and demand federal intervention.

Set for the 84th anniversary of the Emancipation proclamation made by President Lincoln the events scheduled will be a parade of Negro veterans, a rally at Lincoln Memorial and religious services in memory of the victims of lynch terror. A conference of representatives of organizations and outstanding citizens will be held at the same time to map a program for action and send delegations to the White house and department of justice.

According to the Crusade's co-chairman, Paul Robeson, "The shame of lynching and mob violence must be ended! Lynching flouts and undermines the constitutional law of the lands; it violates our deepest religious convictions, and makes a mockery of the democratic aims for which so many of our young men died."

GROUP SEES TRUMAN ON LYNCHING CURB

The Times

New York, N.Y.

Robeson Says Delegation Told Him Government Must Act or 'the Negroes Will'

Tues. 9-24-46

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23 (AP)—A national conference on lynching mapped a program today aimed at curbing mob violence and sent a delegation which told President Truman that if the Government failed to do something "the Negroes will."

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Paul Robeson, a sponsor of the conference, was in the group calling on the President and in telling reporters of the meeting said Mr. Truman had objected to parts of the proposed program.

Mr. Robeson said he read a message to Mr. Truman asking him to issue "a formal public statement" expressing his views on lynching," and recommending a definite legislative and educational program to end the disgrace of mob violence." The President, according to Mr. Robeson, indicated that political matters made it difficult to issue a statement of his views at this time.

Views on Legislation

As to possible Federal legislation to curb lynching, Mr. Robeson said the President expressed the view that passage was a political matter in which timing was important.

The President took exception, Mr. Robeson asserted, to a suggestion by the delegation that it "seemed inept for the United States to take the lead in the Nuremberg trials and fall so far behind in respect to justice to Negroes in this country."

The Presidential view, Mr. Robeson continued, was that Americans should not tie domestic matters to the international situation.

Mr. Robeson also said the President termed America and Great Britain the last refuge of freedom in the world.

"I disagreed with this," said Robeson. "The British Empire is one of the greatest enslavers of human beings."

He declared that American and British policy today were "not supporting anti-fascism."

Asked by a reporter if he was a Communist, Mr. Robeson replied that he is not, and added:

"I label myself as very violently anti-Fascist."

The organization also sent delegations to Attorney General Tom Clark and to the Republican and Democratic national committees.

Group Gives Its Platform

In a statement, it gave this as its platform:

"The apprehension and punishment of every lyncher. Passage of a Federal anti-lynching bill. Keeping the klan out of Congress—no Senate seat for Bilbo."

In a message to Mr. Clark, the conference declared that there had been forty-one reported lynchings since the war ended and "not a single arrest, indictment or conviction of any participant in any of the lynchings has been made." It urged the Justice Department to use "all its authority in a determined drive" to apprehend the lynchers.

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The conference told the political parties:

"We have come to demand that the national committees of the Democratic and Republican parties insist in the forthcoming election that all party candidates adhere to and support the enactment into law of an anti-lynch bill."

Fails To Take Initiative On Plea Of Crusade

The Defender

Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 9-28-46

Paul Robeson Leads Group In Audience With President

WASHINGTON—In terms which left no doubt in the minds of the delegation from the American Crusade to End Lynching, President Truman today emphatically refused to take the initiative to end mob violence and the spread of terrorism in America.

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The delegation, led by Paul Robeson, chairman, and Mrs. Harper Sibley, president of the United Council of Church Women and wife of the former president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, asked the President to make a public statement expressing his views on lynching and to recommend a definite legislative and educational program to end the disgrace of mob violence.

Despite strong urgings from several members of the delegation, President Truman insisted that the moment was not propitious for a forthright statement from the Chief Executive, and that further, the whole question of lynching and mob violence was one to be dealt with in political terms and strategy. He stated such a strategy must be worked out by responsible political leadership and patience must attend the final solution.

Truman Angered

When Mrs. Sibley made a comparison between fascism as it manifested itself against the Jews in Europe and fascism in America as levied against Negroes, the President showed impatience and a flare of temper.

Aubrey Williams, publisher of the Southern Farmer and former administrator of the National Youth Administration, a member of the delegation, speaking from first hand knowledge told Truman a veritable reign of terror exists in the South. He warned unless the President takes action now, the whole situation is likely to become a tragedy on a scale unknown in America. He marshaled all the facts and logic at his command to coax the President into making a definite statement that would allay the fears and apprehension of the people.

Robeson tried to show the President that the mood of the Negro had changed. He said returning veterans are showing signs of restiveness and indicated that they are determined to get the justice here they have fought for abroad. Robeson warned that this restiveness might produce an emergency situation which would require Federal intervention. The President shaking his fist, stated this sounded like a threat.

Against Defender Policy

Dr. Metz T. P. Lochard, editor-in-chief of the Chicago Defender, who joined the delegation representing John H. Sengstacke, who was unable to attend, told Mr. Truman that the Defender policy was unalterably opposed to lynching and mob terror, and that he felt the moment was ripe for the President to make his position properly known.

Other members of the delegation were Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, president of Palmer Memorial Institute; Dr. W. N. Jernigan, president, Federated Council of Churches; Dr. Joseph L. Johnson, president of the Washington Committee of the Southern Conference of Human Welfare; Rabbi Irving Miller, American Jewish Congress; Max Yergan, president, National Negro Congress, and H. Murphy of Chicago.

34

Defender

Outside, David Niles, presidential assistant and unofficial adviser to the President on Negro affairs, sought to soften the President's harsh position to waiting white newsmen. He said, "The President feels that this is a political matter and that the element of timing is important."

Chicago, Ill.

Not Time For New Policy

Niles said, "This is not the time for the Chief Executive to make a pronouncement of any new course." He added, "The President conveyed to the delegation that his general position was a matter of record." To this, Paul Robeson who was listening, replied, "This is an issue that cannot be ducked."

Sat. 9-28-46

The visit to the President by the delegation was the opening gunfire in a 100-day crusade to end mob violence in America from Sept. 22 through Jan. 1, 1947. The crusade was launched with a rally at the Metropolitan AME Church here attended by some 1,500 delegates from various parts of the country. Additional delegations were dispatched by the American Crusade to End Lynching to present statements to the Department of Justice and to both the Democratic and Republican National Committees.

The one-day rally culminated in a dramatic evening at Lincoln Memorial where Paul Robeson, standing at the feet of the great emancipator, Abraham Lincoln, issued a new emancipation proclamation written in the spirit of Lincoln's Gettysburg address.

Plans for the 100-day crusade with comparable rallies to be launched simultaneously throughout America were announced.

TO OPEN CRUSADE AGAINST LYNCHING

Delegates Will Take Einstein Letter to Truman, Meet at the Lincoln Memorial

New York, N.Y.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22—With a visit to the White House the American Crusade to End Lynching will start tomorrow a 100-day campaign against mob executions.

Mon. 9-23-46

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In the evening, on the eighty-fourth anniversary of Lincoln's first Emancipation Proclamation, the Crusade will hold a mass meeting at the Lincoln Memorial, where eyewitness accounts of lynchings will be given by relatives and friends of victims.

The lynching problem will be discussed with President Truman at 11:30 in the morning by a delegation composed of the following:

Paul Robeson, the Negro baritone, chairman of the Crusade.

John Sengstacks, publisher of The Chicago Defender.

Mrs. Harper Sibley, president of the National Council of Church Women.

Rabbi Irving Miller of the American Jewish Congress.

Dr. Max Yergen, president of the American Negro Congress.

Aubrey W. Williams, editor and publisher of The Southern Farmer.

Dr. Joseph L. Johnson, chairman of the Washington Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

The Rev. W. A. Jernagin, president of the National Baptist Young People's Union.

Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, president of Palmer Memorial Institute.

The delegation will deliver to Mr. Truman a letter from Dr. Albert Einstein stating that security against lynching is "one of the most urgent tasks of our generation."

Endorsing the objectives of the crusade "in the conviction that the overwhelming majority of the people favor security for all against illegal violence," Dr. Einstein wrote:

"There is always a way to overcome legal obstacles whenever there is an inflexible will at work in the service of so just a cause."

Delegations of the Crusade will also visit Attorney General Tom C. Clark and the headquarters of the Democratic and Republican National Committees in an effort to work out a program to combat mob law. A conference of 2,000 delegates will be held at the Metropolitan African Methodist Church.

9-23-46

Mr. Robesen and the Washington Community Chorus will sing at the evening mass meeting. A skit, entitled "Even the Dead Arise," will also be presented. Its author is Theodore Ward, only Negro to win a Theatre Guild award, given in recognition of his play, "Our Land."

5,000 in Chi. Flay Lynching

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y. Sat. 9-21-46

CHICAGO, Sept. 19.—The wave of lynch violence against Negroes was denounced by 5,000 Chicagoans at a demonstration here at Congress Plaza.

349

Sponsored by the Chicago Citizens Committee Against Lynching, as part of the American Crusade Against Lynching, the demostration adopted resolutions demanding the arrest of the Monroe, Ga., lynchers; passage of an anti-lynching bill, the unseating of Senator Bilbo, and action by authorities to halt the bombing and burning of Negro homes here.

Sat. 9-21-46

The demonstration was addressed by Canada Lee, actor, Rev. Malcolm Cotton Dobbs, Alabama Executive Secretary, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, Rabbi Jacob Weinstein, Sam Parks, CIO United Packinghouse Workers; Alderman George B. Kells; Claude Lightfoot, Communist Party; Rebecca Styles Taylor, Federated Colored Women's Clubs; Kenneth C. Kennedy, National Commander, United Negro & Allied Veterans; and Ira Latimer, Chicago Civil Liberties Committee.

ack the Anti-Lynch Crusade

Daily Worker New York N.Y. Fri 9-20-46

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HORROR and anger spread throughout the land when two Negroes and their wives were lynched near Monroe, Ga., last July.

Two months have passed and all the vaunted power of the FBI and the Attorney General's office has failed to apprehend a single one of the killers.

Months have passed since Isaac Woodard, Negro veteran, had his eyes gouged out by a South Carolina policeman. The cop admitted his crime—and he is still at large.

These are just two of the reasons for the American Crusade Against Lynching which converges on Washington Monday, Sept. 23.

Negro and white citizens of this country will see the President. They go to Washington to demand punishment of the lynchers; passage of the federal anti-lynching bill and to keep the Klan out of Congress—no Senate seat for Bilbo. All that is decent in America must rise to support he American Crusade to End Lynching.

Truman's Expediency

Daily Worker New York N.Y. Sat. 9-28-46

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THE mutilated bodies of Negro veterans and mob violence against whole Negro populations are not the only evidence of the contempt held by America's rulers for Negro citizens.

The nation got a glimpse of it this week in the heated exchange between President Truman and Paul Robeson, who headed the American Crusade to End Lynchings Delegation of 4,000 to the nation's capitol.

The essence of Truman's objection to the delegation's call that he condemn the rising lynch wave was that **political expediency forbade his making any public statements now.**

What more is needed to convince Truman and the Dept. of Justice that immediate action is required to stop lynch terror now?

More mutilated Negro veterans and their wives, as in Monroe, Georgia? Gouging out of the eyes of more Isaac Woodards?

Nor was the delegation's visit to GOP national chairman Carroll Reece any better.

As put by one of the delegation's spokesmen, "not an iota of satisfaction" was gained from the GOP, or the Federal Administration.

All this shows that there can be no reliance on the reactionaries of either party to stop lynch terror, but only on the mass struggle of the people themselves.

Such struggle should be planned and organized now in support of the 100-day Crusade Plan to end lynchings which aims to make anti-lynching legislation a primary election issue.

The Anti-Lynching Movement

The World Memphis, Tenn. Tues 10-1-46

In his failure to give a constructive answer to the challenge presented to him Monday afternoon by a delegation representing the recently formed American Crusade to End Lynching, President Truman lost his best opportunity to give sharp focus to the official attitude of the Nation's Chief Executive respecting the unholy lynch evil, now blanketing the Nation. Instead, the President took advantage of the occasion to indulge in idle words about the blessings of democracy here and in England. But to the reasoning American citizen, such a callous indifference to the mounting scourge of lynching, this will not suffice. For, whether Mr. Truman may know it or not, there have been 41 lynchings, according to The Washington Post, since V-J Day. The Post's article is so pertinent that we quote it as some length:

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"Mob violence has been so ugly and so widespread in recent months as to constitute an urgent national problem. There have been 41 lynchings since V-J Day. All the victims were Negroes and nearly all of them were veterans. There appears to have been a pattern to this brutal lawlessness—a pattern designed to strike terror into the hearts of men who may have returned from their war service with a determination to share in the freedom and the human rights they fought to preserve. It has been inspired and agitated by the kind of bigotry mouthed during the campaign for renomination by Senator Bilbo and it has come to bear all the aspects of a campaign of oppression and intimidation."

The organization which proposes a crusade against lynching is the only way to counter this evil. It aims at the apprehension and punishment of all lynchers. It pledges to fight for the passage of a Federal Anti-lynching bill And it aims at keeping the Klan out of the Senate—no seat for Bilbo.

Speaking in New York prior to the visit of the delegation to the White House Monday, Aubrey Williams charged a "reign of terror in the South, where the forces of law are being turned against the Negro, is the worst thing that has happened in 40 years." Another point of equal significance made by Mr. Williams:

"Colored people are crucified, not once a day, but several times a day on trains, busses, in stores, or wherever they live or seek to work," and that to date, "Federal action has amounted to practically nothing." Finally, he warns: Colored people are terrorized by the people who are supposed to protect them."

That is what makes Mr. Truman's idle words sound so futile in this critical hour. And we regret that he had to lose such a golden opportunity.

AMERICAN CRUSADE ENDS WITH ANTI-LYNCH DECREE

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-28-46

WASHINGTON—Standing at the feet of Abraham Lincoln's statue here Monday night, Paul Robeson, chairman of the American Crusade to End Lynching, climaxed a day-long rally high-lighted by a visit with the President, by reading a new Emancipation Proclamation to thousands of assembled Negro and white citizens.

Citing the abolition of slavery nearly 100 years ago as the end of the slaveholding heritage only, Robeson stated that oppression of the Negro never ended in fact. The proclamation pointed up the resurgence of violence which has taken the lives of a score of men and women since the war against fascism. It called mob violence a threat to the democratic freedom of the country.

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"We, more than 1,500 citizens assembled in our nation's capitol to inaugurate the continuing American Crusade to End Lynching, are determined that the duly elected government of the U.S. shall fulfill its sacred trust by using the country's every resource to end now the growing reign of mob violence in America," the proclamation stated.

The proclamation, delivered after the President told Crusade members that lynching is not a moral issue, ended with a call to all Americans, regardless of race, creed or color to demand that the 80th Congress pass laws to put an end to the national disgrace of mob murder

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Paul Robeson At The White House

The La. Weekly New Orleans, La.

(By George F. McCray for ANP)

Sat. 10-12-46

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THAT versatile actor and singer, Paul Robeson, called at the White House a few days ago as the leader of delegation protesting Mr. Truman's inaction suppressing ynching and other forms of violence against Negroes.

Big Paul got a lot off his chest, including some remarks hich angered the little man from Missouri, and words hich Paul regretted during a more sober moment. There certainly less doubt in Democratic circles now as to how egroes feel about the drift of things, but I for one would t send Paul back to the White House.

Big Paul just can't play the role, great actor that he which every Negro leader worth his salt must play. ul talked in terms of power and force, elements which rious Negro leaders from Marcus Garvey to A. P. Ranph have wanted to use in their discussions, dealings and negotiations with the leaders of the white world.

These leaders have always suppressed this impulse to talk of force and power. They have approached white leaders, pleading the cause of Negroes on the basis of democracy, Christianity, fair play and national unity. They haven't always had their hats in their hands and, all things considered, have not done badly by a long shot, neither have their successes been anything to write home about.

Many able and self-respecting Negroes become worn out trying to express their great anger and indignation, their high tension disgust through the narrow channels of a religion and democracy which are no longer really inspiring to the masses of men. These fellows really "blow their tops" when a Marcus Garvey or a March on Washington movement comes along. Here, then, they are afforded an opportunity to revel in the noise and trappings of power, but without the real substance of power.

Thus the March on Washington movement was one of the biggest bluffs seen in many a year in Washington, a town where unbelievable bluffs come a dime a dozen.

34 1946

American Crusade to end Lynching

7467

FBI files against policemen after Robeson, Truman bicker

The Tribune Los Angeles, Calif

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N

COLUMBIA, S. C.—Definite federal intervention in the southern violence against Negroes came Thursday when the U. S. Justice Dept. filed a criminal information in federal court here, charging police chief Linwood L. Shull, of Batesburg, S.C., with violating the civil rights of a citizen when he allegedly beat, tortured, and blinded Negro war veteran Isaac Woodward, Jr., of New York. Shull denied the charges and the U. S. district attorney here said that no warrant had been issued for his arrest and that it was uncertain whether one would.

Southern Negro weeklies continued to headline near lynchings this week as singer Paul Robeson met with President Truman in the White House to ask government action on lynching, and emerged to tell reporters that he and the President had had sharp verbal exchange.

Sat 9-28-46

Robeson led a delegation from the National Negro Congress' "American Crusade to End Lynching", typified as a version of the march on Washington, to the White House Monday. He said he read a message to Mr. Truman asking him to issue "a formal public statement expressing (his) views on lynching and recommending a definite legislative and educational program to end the disgrace of mob violence."

The President indicated political matters made it difficult for him to issue such a statement "at this time", Robeson said. He then told the President, "If the government doesn't do somethihg about the situation the Negro will". He explained to newsmen that he meant that "if something isn't done to protect Negroes in the south, there'll be riots that will require intervention by federal troops."

Mr. Truman took "sharp exception", the singer said, to several other suggestions of the delegation. When the group said it "seemed inept for the U.S. to take the lead in the Nuremburg trials and fall so far behind in respect to justice to Negroes in this country", the President declared that Americans should not tie domestic matters to the international situation, pointing to this country and Great Britain as the last strongholds of freedom and democracy, Robeson continued.

Crusade

International News Service quoted Robeson as saying, "I told the President that England is the world's greatest enslaver of people". Associated Press had the impression that Robeson said, "I disagreed with this. The British Empire is one of the greatest enslavers of human beings".

Nor did the President like his criticism of State Secretary Byrnes' handling of foreign policy, Robeson said. "I told the President Byrnes couldn't be a good Secretary of State because he is from a southern state".

Then the President cut off the conference by standing up and he and the delegation were ushered out, Robeson reported.

Robeson, who has been doing much more talking than singing lately, was also one of the speakers at the recent Madison Square Garden rally of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions and the NC-PAC, at which Henry A. Wallace talked himself out of his job as commerce secretary. It was reported that while Wallace was hissed several times during the speech, Robeson was cheered when he asked an end to lynching.

NAACP INTERVIEWS PRESIDENT The Tribune

A more successful presidential interview was reported earlier by NAACP. Its National Emergency Committee Against Mob Violence, representing 47 organizations, met Sept. 19 with President Truman, whose "interest . . . was so great that he spent 35 instead of the pre-arranged 15 minutes discussing the situation..."

The NAACP delegation included Dr. Channing H. Tobias, CIO secretary James Carey, AFL economist Boris Shiskin, NAACP administrative assistant Leslie Perry, and Frederick E. Reissig, of the Federal Council of Churches in America, with NAACP secretary Walter White as spokesman. Mr. Truman evinced great concern for the plight of southern Negroes and promised he would take up the matter with Att'y Gen. Clark the next day, NAACP said.

Meanwhile, NAACP headquarters sent an investigator to Tylerton, Miss., to check reports that he knew no reason for the attack. "I asked them what I had done," he said, "and informed them I had just come from the game, but (one of the policemen) said, 'Get in and shut your damn mouth'."

Chicago reported that a Negro anti-lynching meeting almost turned into a lynching party when a Tennessee white, Leck Denton, 31, a Chattanooga delegate to an AFL bakers' convention, was accused of cutting a rally microphone cable. According to police, about 40 of the 2,000 spectators at the meeting surrounded Denton and threatened him until officers intervened. Denton, charged with malicious mischief and disorderly conduct, pleaded not guilty and was released on $50 bail.

Chicago also reported that its wave of race terrorism has spread to two other racial groups, Mexicans and Chinese. A Mexican architectural draftsman and his wife reported their landlord asked them to move from a flat after unknown persons had broken two windows, and a Chinese woman, operator of a restaurant, said three whites had assaulted her husband when they were told that the restaurant was closed for the night.

Attacks against Chicago Negroes continued. Two Negro women reported their landlord advised them to move because a white had threatened to burn the building if they were not evicted. Mrs. Martha Johnson, Negro, reported that two men forced their way into her apartment at gunpoint, ransacked the apartment for "weapons", then told her, "We are going to run all the niggers out and we don't want them to have anything to fight back with". The men attacked her, then they threatened to shoot all the Negroes they didn't burn out, Mrs. Johnson said.

In Calumet city, Ill., entertainer William Hays charged he was brutally beaten and thrown through a plate-glass window by several white men in a restaurant. He and his quartet had gone to seek employment at the cafe, Hays said.

Negro war veteran Edro Taylor, 25, had been beaten, shot, jailed, and again beaten by police, then sentenced to six years in the state penitentiary as a result of a cafe altercation with Tylerton peace officers last January. Secret lynchings, tortures, and horsewhipping of Negroes are said to be common knowledge in Tylerton, with several severe floggings occurring in recent months.

NAACP headquarters this week also reported a near-lynching in Sylva and Waynesville, N.C., which was averted by quick action by NAACP and by North Carolina police. A Negro veteran, Paul Dorsey, 24, was wrongly accused of the murder of a white truck driver, William Jordan, 45, NAACP said, and a lynch mob of about 350 persons gathered to "take care of him". NAACP wired Gov. R. Gregg Cherry to intervene, and Cherry wired back, saying he had ordered an investigation and all was now quiet in the two communities. Dorsey is now in jail in Asheville, having been transferred there from Waynesville, where he was transferred for "safekeeping" from Sylva.

Los Angeles, Calif

In Birmingham, Ala., the deputy coroner delivered a verdict of "justifiable homicide" in the slaying of a Negro, Billy Cole, by a white Bessmer city policeman.

In Wilson, N. C., Johnny Knight, Jr., 18-year-old mute, was ordered held under $2,500 bond on charges of assaulting a 16-year-old white girl of Sims, N. C.

Sat 9-28-46

In Henderson, N. C., officers captured Leroy Crossland, 26, after what was reported as "one of the greatest manhunts in the history of Vance county". Crossland is charged with the assault slaying of Mrs. Ola Clark, white, of Henderson.

Violence was reported in two non-southern cities. In Cincinnati, O., a one-legged Negro, Charles Williams, 33, the father of five children, charged that two white patrolmen forced him into their car, and clubbed and robbed him of $17 as he was going home from a baseball game. Williams said

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JOIN THE CRUSADE

The Worker

TO

New York, N.Y.

END LYNCHING

Sun. 9-22-46

Lynching is the ugliest crime in American life.

All decent Americans are determined that it shall be stopped.

24

Out of the anger and revulsion over the recent outburst of lynch violence in the North and South has been formed the American Crusade to End Lynching.

Sponsored and supported by a large group of prominent persons, with Paul Robeson as chairman, this body has issued a call for a National Pilgrimage to go to Washington on September 23.

This Pilgrimage will focus the attention of the nation on the shame of lynching and the need for Federal action.

The Pilgrimage will carry to Washington these main demands:

1. ***Apprehension and punishment of every lyncher***
2. ***Passage of a Federal anti-lynching bill***
3. ***Keep the Klan out of Congress—no seat for Theodore Bilbo***

If you hate lynching—if you want to do something to stop this hideous crime:

Join the National Pilgrimage — Sept. 23

The International Workers Order, a fraternal society of Negro and white members, fully endorses the aims and purposes of this Pilgrimage.

We hail the formation of the American Crusade to End Lynching and the National Pilgrimage as the beginning of the kind of action that must continue until all Americans, regardless of race, religion or creed, are protected by democratic law.

The Anti-Lynching Movement

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Thurs. 9-26-46

34

In his failure to give a constructive answer to the challenge presented to him Monday afternoon by a delegation representing the recently formed American Crusade to End Lynching, President Truman lost his best opportunity to give sharp focus to the official attitude of the Nation's Chief Executive respecting the unholy lynch evil, now blanketing the Nation. Instead the President took advantage of the occasion to indulge in idle words about the blessings of democracy here and in England. But to the reasoning American citizen, such a callous indifference to the mounting scourge of lynching, this will not suffice. For whether Mr. Truman may know it or not, there have been 41 lynchings, according to The Washington Post, since V-J Day. The Post's article is so pertinent that we quote it at some length:

"Mob violence has been so ugly and so widespread in recent months as to constitute an urgent national problem. There have been 41 lynchings since V-J Day. All the victims were Negroes and nearly all of them were veterans. There appears to have been a pattern to this brutal lawlessness—a pattern designed to strike terror into the hearts of men who may have returned from their war service with a determination to share in the freedom and the human rights they fought to preserve. It has been inspired and agitated by the kind of bigotry mouthed during the campaign for renomination by Senator Bilbo and it has come to bear all the aspects of a campaign of oppression and intimidation."

The organization which proposes a crusade against lynching is the only way to counter this evil. It aims at the apprehension and punishment of all lynchers. It pledges to fight for the passage of a Federal Anti-lynching bill And it aims at keeping the Klan out of the Senate—no seat for Bilbo.

Speaking in New York prior to the visit of the delegation to the White House Monday, Aubrey Williams charged a "reign of terror in the South, where the forces of law are being turned against the Negro, is the worst thing that has happened in 40 years." Another point of equal significance made by Mr. Williams:

"Colored people are crucified, not once a day, but several times a day on trains, busses, in stores, or wherever they live or seek to work," and that to date, "Federal action has amounted to practically nothing." Finally, he warns: colored people are terrorized by the people who are supposed to protect them."

That is what makes Mr. Truman's idle words sound so futile in this critical hour. And we regret that he had to lose such a golden opportunity.

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27 Legislators Pledge Vote For Federal Anti-Lynch Bill

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

34

Sat. 12-14-46

NEW YORK—Twenty-five congressmen and two senators have already committed themselves in favor of federal anti-lynching legislation, it was announced this week by Immanuel Neumark, executive secretary of the American Crusade to End Lynching. These commitments have been obtained in response to a letter sent by the organization last week to all members of the 80th Congress.

A number of the legislators, in their replies, expressed themselves forcefully against lynching and in favor of Federal legislation. "There is no greater national crime than murdering people by mob violence," stated Sen. Chapman Revercomb (W. Va.) in his letter.

"I am unalterably opposed to any form of lynching," wrote Congressman-elect John Davis Lodge, who comes from the Fourth District of Connecticut which was formerly represented by Clare Boothe Luce. "Purely aside from anything else, it is nothing less than insurrection."

Fourteen of the legislators who have committed themselves are from New York state. Three are from President Truman's home state of Missouri. There are two each from New Jersey and Ohio, and one each from Connecticut, Indiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

"It is gratifying to note," stated Neumark in releasing the information, "that twenty-seven members of the 80th Congress have responded favorably in the period of less than a week since they have received our letter. However, it will require the support of 218 Congressmen, or a majority of the House of Representatives, to pass a Federal Anti-Lynching Bill, and it may require two-thirds of the Senate, or 64 Senators, to stop a filibuster on the bill by voting cloture. The American Crusade to End Lynching will not be satisfied until the necessary number of members of the 80th Congress have committed themselves to full support of an anti-lynch law. We are urging all public-spirited citizens to write their Congressmen and Senators urging that they immediately make known their willingness to work for the passage of this legislation."

34

Members of the Senate who have committed themselves in favor of Federal Anti-Lynching legislation are Sen. William E. Jenner (Ind.) and Sen. Chapman Revercomb (W. Va.). Members of the House of Representatives are the following: John D. Lodge (Conn.); T. B. Morton (Ky.); Max Schwabe (Mo.); le I. Bakewell (Mo.); Frank rsten (Mo.); James C. Auch- (N. J.); Frank A. Mathews .); Leonard W. Hall (N.Y.); John W. Delaney (N. Y.); Joseph L. Pfeifer (N. Y.); John J. Rooney (N. Y.); Emanuel Geller (N. Y.); Vito Marcantonio (N. Y.); Arthur G. Klein (N. Y.); Sol Bloom (N. Y.); Jacob K. Javits (N. Y.); Adam C. Powell (N. Y.); Benjamin J. Rabin (N. Y.); Charles A. Buckley (N. Y.); Bernard W. Kearney (N. Y.); William T. Byrne (N. Y.); Clarence J. Brown (Ohio); Walter B. Huber (Ohio); Hugh D. Scott Jr., (Pa.); and John C. Brophy (Wisc.).

Defender 12-14-46

7468

GOP Head Avoids Stand on Lynching

Daily Worker New York N.Y. Wed. 9-25-46

34

By John Hudson Jones

The "American Crusade to End Lynching" delegation that saw J. Carroll Reece, National Chairman of the Republican Party got only double talk, evasion, and electioneering for Grant Reynolds, when they attempted to get the GOP's stand on lynching last Monday in Washington.

Delegates from 21 states and 136 organizations on an "End Lynching Pilgrimage" the delegation was one of four that saw President Truman, Attorney General Tom Clark and Joseph Berger, assistant to Robert Hannegan, Democratic Party National Chairman.

The delegates asked Reece what the GOP intended to do about anti-lynch legislation. He replied that "You know what our platform is and where I stand on the issue."

Asked why Republicans consistently voted against anti-poll tax and anti-lynch legislation, Reece said he thought that "most Republicans" favored such legislation, but voted against it because they felt it was unconstitutional.

Reece lauded Governor Dewey and claimed that since Dewey was a Republican the New York State fair employment commission was a Republican accomplishment. But Stanley Faulkner, New York attorney in the Freeport case, pointed out that in 1944 D. Channing Tobias and several other members of a committee that Dewey appointed resigned in protest when Dewey appointed a second committee to inquire into unfair employment practices.

Asked what he thought of the Freeport case in which the cop who killed the two Ferguson brothers was whitewashed by GOP bigwig, James N. Gehrig, Nassau County District Attorney, Reece said, "I don't know anything about it."

With Reece was Republican Grant Reynolds, who is running for congres against Rep. Adam Clayton Powell. Evidently used by Reece for window dressing to the delegation, Reynolds said nothing during the conference. But it appeared that Reece was attempting to influence the coming New York election, when on several occasions during the conference, he hinted to the delegates that if men like Reynolds were elected to Congress the legislation they were seeking would receive favorable votes from the GOP. Reynolds only grinned agreement.

In the interview with the Democrat Joseph Berger, the latter agreed with the delegation but said Robert Hannegan would have to issue statement. The delegation left request that Hannegan write to Paul Robeson, chairman of the "Crusade."

CLARK'S ATTITUDE

Attorney General Tom Clark told the delegation conferring with him that he intended to ask Truman to call a conference of individuals and organizations to draw up legislation on civil rights for presentation to Congress.

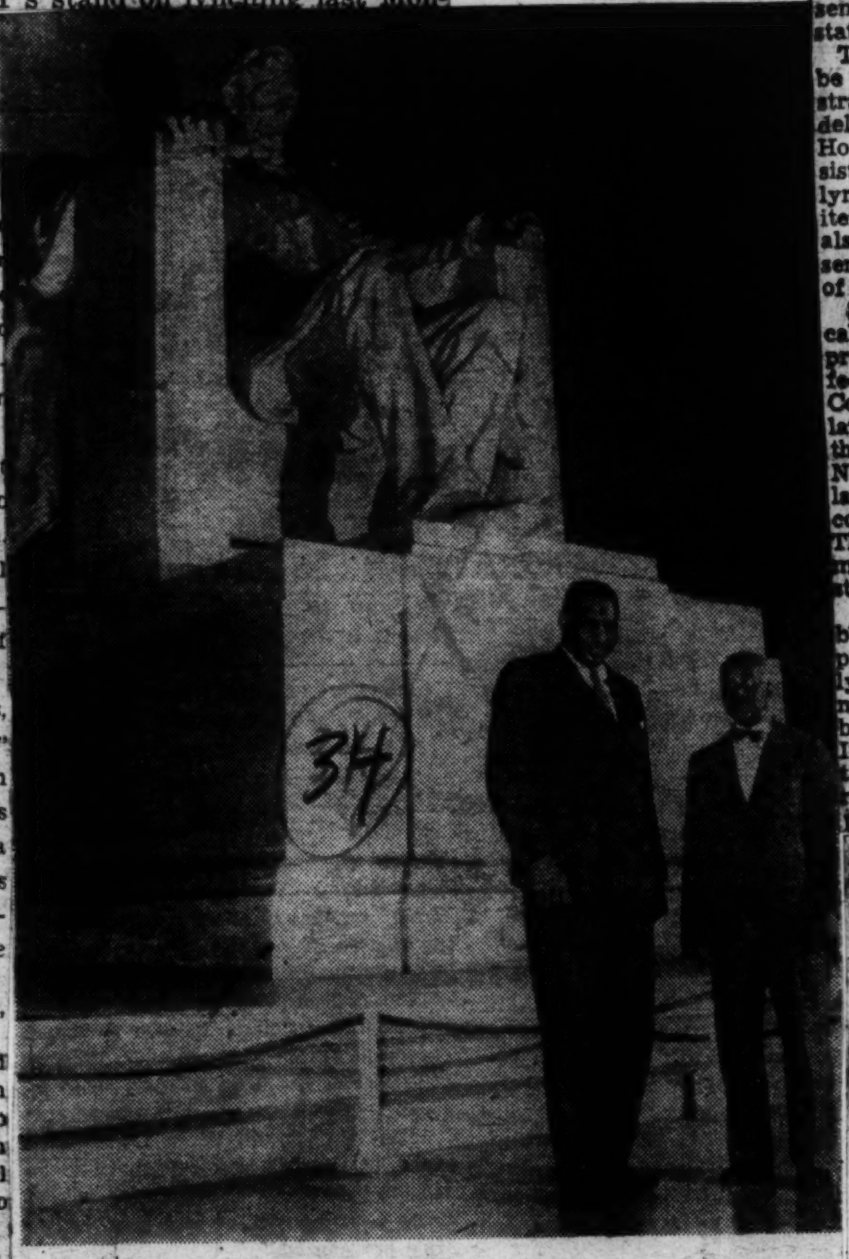
Clark felt that the Department of Justice had no "legal basis" to act now on the lynching situation. Martin Popper, of the National Lawyers Guild, pointed out a "reasonably broad interpretation" of existing laws would permit action.

Questioned on specific cases, Clark said he was "considering" prosecution in the Woodard case, in which a Negro veteran had his eyes gouged out by a South Carolina cop. "Insufficient evidence" was barring the Department from acting in the Georgia lynching, he said.

With Clark was Theron L. Caudle, assistant district attorney.

After a day of conferences and an action meeting, the delegates on the "End Lynching Pilgrimage to Washington" went to the Lincoln Memorial, where they heard Paul Robeson issue a "Proclamation to End Lynching."

Speaking also was Percy Green, editor of the Jackson, Miss., Advocate. Green was the first man to present Congress with a petition demanding the ousting of Bilbo. Other speakers included, Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown; Walter Frisbie, president of the Indiana CIO, and Don Goddard.



Four Score and Four Years Ago: On the 84th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation Paul Robeson and Dean Joseph Johnson stand at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, just before the anti-lynch meeting sponsored by the American Crusade to End Lynching.

Wed. 9-25-46

Anti-Lynch Crusade Studies Congress Candidates' Records

~~The Def~~ The Defender Chicago Ill. Sat. 10-19-46

NEW YORK—Past voting records of 1946 Congressional candidates, and their willingness to vote for an anti-lynch bill, is being closely studied by the American Crusade to End Lynching, it was revealed last week.

In cities throughout the country, ACEL committees have been mapping election strategy, and have reviewed each candidate's vote record on FEPC, anti-poll tax, and anti-lynch bills. The committees are also canvassing these candidates to find what action they will take to force the anti-lynch bill out of committee during the 80th Congress.

Plan Second Pilgrimage

Led by Paul Robeson, ACEL began a 100-day crusade against lynching with a trip to the capitol last month, which included interviews with the President, Atty. Gen. Tom Clark, and heads of the Democratic and Republican National committees. More than 1,500 Negro and white delegates, representing 50 organizations in 38 states made the Washington trip.

The work now in progress will be climaxed by a larger demonstration in January, when 3,000 delegates will march on the White House and Congress. They will insist that Congress consider anti-lynch legislation as one of the first item of the 80th session. ACEL will also present representatives and senators with detailed information of past mob murders. 10-19-46

Since many federal officials have called present laws inadequate to prevent lynchings, ACEL leaders feel there is a good chance for Congress to consider stronger laws. It has already been reported that President Truman told NAACP Secretary Walter White last month that he will appoint a commission to study the lynch evil. The commission will make recommendations with a view to strengthening present laws.

Another factor supporting their belief is failure of the FBI to apprehend any of the Monroe, Ga., lynch mob. Known for catching its man, the FBI is being embarrassed by refusal of townspeople to talk. It is felt that FBI agents cannot take action necessary to insure arrests because of the weakness of present laws.

Drew Pearson

The News Birmingham, Ala. Sun. 9-29-46

WASHINGTON—It may be that President Truman, like other human beings, sometimes has one idea one day and another idea the next. Or it may be that some people rub him the wrong way. At any rate, after tentatively approving a plan to help prevent lynching last week, he got uncooperative on the same subject this week.

Probable reason: Negro Singer Paul Robeson rubbed him the wrong way.

Previously Walter White, Negro head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, had found Truman quite cooperative in the drive to stamp out lynching. The president even indicated that he would appoint a commission to investigate lynchings.

A few days later another delegation called at the White House, led by Paul Robeson and including Mrs. Harper Sibley, wife of the former president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, high citadel of big business. This time the president became quite irked—in fact, much more so than the newspapers reported.

Mrs. Sibley was the first to nettle him.

"Discrimination against the Negroes in this country," she said, "is just as bad as the racism of Nazi Europe. We're trying people in Nuernberg for war crimes; but if we really consider them guilty, Mr. President, we should consider those in this country who lynch Negroes equally guilty."

"Domestic problems are domestic problems," snapped President Truman in reply, "and foreign problems are foreign problems."

He also reminded his visitors that the United States and Great Britain are the last strongholds of freedom in the world, and promised that the United States will push for "punishment to the limit" of those adjudged guilty at Nuernberg.

"We realize, and you must realize," he added, "that it is their (the Nazis) philosophy which has infected a few people in this country and is largely responsible for lynchings."

Dr. Joseph Johnson, Negro director of the Washington chapter of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, then remarked that lynchings were common in this country long before the crimes now being judged in Nuernberg took place.

* * *

At this point Paul Robeson challenged the president's support of Great Britain as a champion of human liberties. After graduating from Rutgers College, where he played All-American end in 1918, Robeson starred in "Emperor Jones," "Porgy," "All God's Chillun," and then, because he was not received on the American concert stage, finally went to England, where he has spent considerable time since.

"I have lived in England for many years," the Negro singer told President Truman, "and I know you are partially right about individual freedom in the British Isles—although I believe the Welsh miners might argue that point. But outside England, I don't believe the British have a very proud record for human liberties in Africa, Palestine, India and other colonial areas."

Having just come through his siege with Henry Wallace over foreign policy, the president naturally was a bit touchy on this subject.

"No true American should disagree with our foreign policy," he said. "We've got to support our policy and Secretary of State Byrnes—he needs unity behind him."

"I'm sorry to disagree, Mr. President," Robeson replied. "How can Secretary Byrnes stand up in the Council of Nations as the representative of a land of freedom, when lynchings and discrimination are common occurrences in that land?"

The delegation urged the president to issue a statement on lynching and to declare a national emergency. It was argued that a precedent had been established recently in the case of the rail strike.

"The temper of the Negro is changed, Mr. President," Robeson urged. "Negro war veterans, particularly, who fought for freedom, want to know that they can have freedom in their own country. If they can't have protection against violence and intolerance on the local level, then they want to know they will have federal protection."

At this point the president accused Robeson of threatening. The singer apologized, explaining that his comment on the changing temper of his race was a matter of personal observation and that he was not speaking for the delegation.

"I'm afraid I was carried away by the subject, Mr. President. It's something I feel deeply—for my people and for the overwhelming majority of the white people of America."

(34) Crusade

The president concluded the brief session by repeating his sympathy with the campaign against lynching, but declined to make a public statement at this time.

"All right-thinking Americans abhor lynching," he said.

An Anti-Lynching Proclamation

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

To the President, the Congress, and The People of the United States: Sat 10-5-46

(34)

Four score and four years ago a great President of the United States proclaimed the abolition of human slavery in most of America, the proclamation to become effective within one hundred days. During the next few years, the abolition of slavery was made complete, and the long oppressed Negro people were endowed with the democratic constitutional rights of citizenship and of suffrage. Legally, the heritage of more than two centuries of Negro slavery was an end.

But the violent oppression of Negro citizens never did end in fact. And today, but little more than one year after the United Nations' victory over the enemies of all mankind, Negro women and men, including many veterans, are being murdered with impunity by lawless mobs, beaten and maimed and blinded, their homes destroyed, their right to vote openly flaunted, and a mockery made of their right to protection and to justice in the courts.

The terror now being directed against Negroes in America has assumed that cruel pattern so characteristic of our late enemies in Nazi Germany. Unless it is stopped now, it will destroy not only the lives and liberties of Negroes, but also the democratic foundations of our entire society.

It is astounding that the President and Congress of the United States have taken no action which effectively curbs this unrestrained violation of human and constitutional rights! It is almost incredible that the political leaders of America remain idle in the fact of this menace to the democratic freedom of our nation!

We, more than 1,500 American citizens, assembled in our nation's capital to inaugurate a continuing AMERICAN CRUSADE TO END LYNCHING, are determined that the duly elected Government of the United States shall fulfill its sacred trust by using the country's every resource to end now the growing reign of mob violence in America.

Now, therefore, we, expressing the views of decent Americans, do, on this twenty-third day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and forty-six, publicly proclaim for the full period of one hundred days an intensive crusade for federal action to end lynching.

And we hereby call upon all Americans of whatever race or creed or political persuasion, to mobilize their maximum resources and influence to the end of impressing the President and Congress of the United States with the urgent necessity of enacting effective legislation to stop lynching promptly upon the convening of the Eightieth Congress in January one hundred days hence.

Done at the City of Washington, this twenty-third day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and forty-six, and of the independence of the United States, the one hundred seventieth, and of the constitutional freedom of the Negro people, the eighty-third.

By the American Crusade to End Lynching, Convened in the District of Columbia on Monday, September 23, 1946.

Prearrangement

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-31-46

CONRAD CLARK, newsman, veteran and War Department employee, was part of the National Negro Congress-sponsored delegation which waited on President Truman in protest of the Monroe, Ga., lynchings. As usual the President was too busy to see them and as usual they were shunted to the White House specialist on race matters, David Niles.

(34) Crusade

Niles, a holdover from President Roosevelt's staff and a past master at "trouble shooting" and conciliating, tried to smooth matters. He explained the President's visitor's schedule is made up at least three days in advance.

Conrad spoke up, "Then if we had asked three days in advance we may have gotten on today's schedule?"

"Yes," said Niles, "I believe so."

"Well then," said Conrad, "in the future we will try to get Negroes in the South to let us know three days in advance before they get lynched, so we can get in to see our President."

Congressmen Asked Stand on Lynch Bills

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

(34)

Public expression on federal anti-lynching legislation has been requested of all members of the 80th Congress by the American Crusade to End Lynching, it was announced yesterday by Immanuel Neumark, executive secretary. Mon. 11-25-46

The Crusade, sponsored by Paul Robeson, Albert Einstein, Bartley C. Crum, Rev. A. Powell Davies and more than 100 other prominent Americans, seeks to secure passage of federal legislation against lynching.

"The wave of brutality and violence against the Negro people in recent months," the letter states, "has reinforced the conviction of thinking Americans that a federal anti-lynching law is an immediate need of our nation. Lynch mobs have taken the lives of 41 Americans since the end of the war, and have threatened the well-being and security of countless others. This tragic state of affairs is wholly inconsistent with the democratic tradition of our land, and makes a mockery of our government's demands that other nations grant full and equal rights and protection to all their citizens."

Antilynch Group Invades Capital

1946 (34)

The Afro-American

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—Invading Capital Hill before the 80th Congress got into session, Thursday, some 250 delegates of the American Crusade to End Lynching visited Congressmen to urge action on both antilynching legislation and the ousting of Senator Bilbo. Baltimore, Md.

The delegates had assembled here from all parts of the country to attend a two-day session of the Crusade, Thursday and Friday, at which Paul Robeson, singer and actor, was the principal speaker. Sat. 1-4-47

Ends 100-Day Crusade

This week's conference marked the end of a 100-day period during which the American Crusade to End Lynching has been carrying on an educational campaign respecting civil rights.

The Crusade was launched Sept. 23, with a pilgrimage to Washington, at which time a seven-man delegation, headed by Mr. Robeson, conferred with President Truman regarding antilynching legislation.

City Council Endorses Anti-Lynch Crusade

Daily Worker 34 9 New York, N.Y.

Wed. 9-18-46

The City Council yesterday unanimously endorsed the American Crusade to End Lynching and urged the people of New York City to back the demonstration in Washington, D. C., Sept. 23. The Council also called upon Mayor O'Dwyer to proclaim Sept. 23 American Crusade to End Lynching Day.

The resolution, offered as a Council measure, was suggested by Communist Councilman Benjamin Davis.

Additional support for the Crusade came from State CIO president Louis Hollander who urged all CIO locals to elect delegates.

Aim of the Crusade is to secure federal action to stop the current wave of lynch terror against the Negro people, explained Paul Robeson who made an appeal for trade union support at the recent N. Y. State CIO convention.

Hundreds of labor, civic, veterans, church and political groups are electing delegates. Committees have been formed in many cities. Among these are the Boston Committee for Action on the Georgia Lynching and the Detroit Committee to Fight Racial Injustice and Terrorism.

It was announced 200 delegates would attend the Washington meeting from Detroit, representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Negro Congress, American Legion, Detroit Council of Applied Religion, Michigian Citizens Committee, Communist Party, Ford Local 600 UAW and the American Youth for Democracy.

Major Maxwell Cohen, national commander, of the Jewish War Veterans, has urged posts of the organization to send delegates.

The United Negro and Allied Veterans and the New York metropolitan council of the American Veterans Committee also are sending delegates. 9-18-46

A special train for delegates will leave Pennsylvania Station 7:30 a.m. (EDT) Sept. 23, returning that night.

Round-trip tickets and registration fees will cost $10 and may be obtained at Civil Rights Congress, 112 E. 19 St.; IWO, 80 Fifth Ave.; American Youth for Democracy, 150 Nassau St.; and offices of the American Crusade, 23 W. [illegible] St. all in Manhattan.

Lynch Protest Will March on Capital

The Worker New York, N.Y.

Sun. 9-8-46

34

A national pilgrimage on Washington, D.C., to protest the current wave of lynchings in the South and demand action against the killers is being planned for Sept. 23, the newly-formed American Crusade to End Lynching announced yesterday.

Chairman Paul Robeson, in announcing formation of the group, termed the lynching a "national disgrace" and said many prominent Americans in all walks of life had joined with him in planning the march on the Capitol.

The End Lynching Crusade announced a three-point action program:

- Apprehension and punishment of every lyncher;
- Passage of a federal anti-lynching bill;
- Keeping the Klan out of the Senate—No seat for Theodore Bilbo.

Among initiators of the Crusade were Martin Abzug, Albert Einstein, Bartley Crum, Lloyd Garrison, Robert Kenny, Oscar Hammerstein II, Joe Louis, Carey McWilliams, Margaret Webster, Joseph Curran, Prof. Harlow Shapley and Aubrey Williams.

Also, Lena Horne, James Patton, Bishop B. G. Shaw, Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Henry Sloane Coffin, Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Gene Kelly, Reid Robinson, Rev. John B. Thompson, William O. Walker, Dalton Trumbo, Rabbi Barnett R. Bricknes, Canada Lee and W. S. B. DuBois.

And, James Egert Allen, Bishop W. J. Walls, C. C. Dejoie, Jr., Ralph Helstein, Dr. D. V. Jemison, Dr. Joseph Johnson, Dr. Benjamin Mays, Howard Murphy, N. A. Sweet, Bishop R. R. Wright, Jr., E. Y. Harburg and Dr. Max Yergan.

The Crusade, in issuing the call

LENA HORNE

ROBESON

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ROBINSON

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for the Washington pilgrimage, pointed out that though there have been many victims in the recent lynchings, "not one single arrest, indictment or conviction of any participant in any of the lynchings has been made." It was charged that federal action has been "negligible and ineffective" and that action on the part of state and local authorities cannot be expected.

White Vet Arrested Protesting Lynchings

The Weekly

New York, N. Y.—As a result of his participation in the Emergency Crusade to End Lynching a young white ex-second lieutenant of the Army Air Corps was arrested and held in $500 bail for alleged violation of the United States Civil Code. New Orleans, La

Bill Siler, white ex-Air Corps veteran, of 61 W. 108th Street, New York City, who served two years overseas, and is a member of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, was held by the FBI after being released by the provost marshal in Washington, D. C., on Monday. Sat. 10-5-46

The Army found no violation of any existing military regulation and Siler's retention under bail by the federal authorities is believed to be an attempt to discourage any sympathetic solidarity between white and Negro veterans who are fighting the scourge of lynching.

The law firm of Levine & Schlessinger of Washington, D. C. is attempting to have the charges against Siler dismissed, inasmuch as he was the only one of some two hundred veterans in uniform who was arrested at the anti-lynch crusade in Washington on Monday.

At the time of his arrest, Siler, though wearing his uniform, also wore his discharge button, and stated that his expiration of terminal leave occurred in December, 1945.

The New York State Chapter, United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, 2143 Seventh Avenue, is enlisting all possible help and aid from those veterans who feel as strongly about lynching as does this white veteran to give whatever assistance possible in the legal defense of Siler.

7469

Paul Robeson Irks President Truman With Demands for Edict On Lynching

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. Sun. 9-29-46

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—It may be that President Truman, like other human beings, sometimes has one idea one day and another idea the next. Or it may be that some people rub him the wrong way. At any rate, after tentatively approving a plan to help prevent lynching last week, he got unco-operative on the same subject this week.

Probable reason: Negro singer Paul Robeson rubbed him the wrong way.

Previously, Walter White, Negro head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, had found Truman quite co-operative in the drive to stamp out lynching. The President even indicated that he would appoint a commission to investigate lynchings.

A few days later, another delegation called at the White House led by Paul Robeson and including Mrs. Harper Sibley, wife of the former president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, high citadel of Big Business. This time, the President became quite irked—in fact, much more so than the newspapers reported.

'Bad As Racism'

Mrs. Sibley was the first to nettle him.

"Discrimination against the Negroes in this country," she said, "is just as bad as the racism of Nazi Europe. We're trying people in Nuernberg for war crimes; but if we really consider them guilty, Mr. President, we should consider those in this country who lynch Negroes equally guilty."

"Domestic problems are domestic problems," snapped President Truman in reply, "and foreign problems are foreign problems."

He also reminded his visitors that the United States and Great Britain are the last strongholds of freedom in the world, and promised that the United States will push for "punishment to the limit" of those adjudged guilty at Nuernberg.

"We realize, and you must realize," he added, "that it is their (the Nazis') philosophy which has infected a few people in this country, and is largely responsible for lynchings."

Dr. Joseph Johnson, Negro director of the Washington chapter of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, then remarked that lynchings were common in this country long before the crimes now being judged in Nuernberg took place.

Truman Challenged

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7469

Temper Changed

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Paul Robeson

'Negro's temper has changed'

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"All right-thinking Americans are against lynching," he said.

The Washington March on Lynching

The Worker New York, N.Y.

Sun. 9-29-46

34

By John Hudson Jones

SEPTEMBER 22, 1862—JANUARY 1, 1863.

The Civil War raged. The foundations of the slave power had to be smashed if the Union was to win the war. Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation in September to become effective in January. There were the 100 critical days of the war. Would America be slave or free?

SEPTEMBER 22, 1946—JANUARY 1, 1947.

There is another national emergency. Lynch terror against the Negro people is threatening the democratic foundations of our society. The President and the Congress have taken no action to curb this murderous violation of human and constitutional rights. But the people have acted to stop it. The American Crusade to End Lynching has opened a 100 days' intensive campaign for federal legislation and action that will "wipe the fascist curse of lynching from the face of America."

34a

Last Monday, Sept. 23, on the invitation of Paul Robeson, Albert Einstein, and hundreds of other prominent Americans, 4,000 representatives of 136 fraternal, youth, labor, civic, church and other organizations met in Washington, D. C. and adopted a program calling for: The Worker

1. The apprehension and punishment of every lyncher.

2. Passage of a federal anti-lynching bill. New York, N.Y.

3. Keeping the Klan out of Congress—no Senate seat for Bilbo.

Paul Robeson spoke with President Truman, but got no satisfaction. He had been "thinking about it." Opening the conference at the Metropolitan AME Church, Robeson told the cheering thousands, "If the President of the United States is a little uncertain as to whether he can act, we are going to see that he does act." Sun. 9-29-46

Anti-Lynch Law Held Vital Election Issue

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—As an aftermath of the American Crusade to End Lynching, Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress, recently urged all local NNC Councils to back only those Congressional candidates who will give positive commitments to support antilynching legislation.

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The NNC asked its councils to secure in writing the local candidates' commitment to press for apprehension and punishment of lynchers, passage of a Federal antilynch law; to keep the Klan out of Congress, and no seat for Bilbo. Sat. 10-26-46

The colored people, whose vote in many States may decide the outcome of the election, must back only those progressive candidates who will sincerely fight for democracy.

Critical of Inaccuracies

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

New York.

Editor, Daily Worker: Thurs. 10-10-46

I am a member of the Communist Party and a reader of the Daily Worker. I strongly feel the urgency for further circulation of our paper and am active in the current campaign to increase the paper's circulation.

34

However, I would like to take issue with you on your coverage of the Anti-Lynch Crusade in regard to the number of delegates present. There could not have been 4,000 delegates present as reported.

I was a delegate from the party and, although estimating crowd numbers is very difficult, I'm sure that the number was not as large as that.

There is a strong tendency in our paper to exaggerate numerical representation. I feel that this is very harmful. While the bourgeois press consistently plays down our strength at various demonstrations, I do not feel that exaggeration on our part is a counter-measure. 10-10-46

How Brown Barged In

The story of how Edgar G. Brown, generalissimo of the National Negro Council, stole the limelight from the National Negro Congress when they staged their protest against lynching at the White House Monday is revealing. The Afro-American

Edgar wasn't in on the deal at all, as arrangements were made for the march by Max Yergan and his followers in Harlem July 28 at a monster mass meeting.

34

At that time some 5,000 Harlemites, in an emotional frenzy, pledged to accompany Yergan to Washington, but when the train arrived only 10 showed up, and they were all officers.

Locals, however, swelled the number to about 80 with more cops on hand than marchers.

Brown, who had read the announcement in the papers joined the group and fell in line amid frowns from the leaders.

When they reached the White House the police escort led them around to the State Department where David Niles of the White House secretariat had been designated to hear them.

Edgar was disappointed! During the excitement he broke ranks and marched directly into the White House. Baltimore, Md.

When he was discovered in the corridor, the secret service men were thrown into a panic, wondering how he had slipped past the gate guards. Sat. 8-10-46

"You are not supposed to be here," one of them explained. "You all are supposed to see Mr. Niles in the State Department."

"What 'you all'?" snapped Edgar. "I don't care who they want to see. I came here to see the President of the United States. With people being lynched wholesale this is no time to be fooling with underlings."

34

There was much argument back and forth with the whole White House press corps crowding around before Edgar was hustled out.

That is how it happened that Edgar got more space in the dailies than the people who had staged the march.

Collins Backs Robeson End Lynch Crusade

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 10-19-46

NEW YORK—In a frontal attack on the "callous indifference" of both Republicans and Democrats, Charles A. Collins, American Labor Party and People's Rights Party candidate for State Senate, last week became the first public office seeker to back the American Crusade to End Lynching in Washington.

34

The Harlem labor leader and former representative to the World Federation of Trade Unions' conference at Paris recently wrote Paul Robeson, chairman of the crusade, stating that the program and aims of the pilgrimage had been incorporated into his party platform. Commenting further, Collins said:

"With profound dismay and shock, I have noticed the callous indifference of President Truman and Democratic and Republican parties to the appeal of the American Crusade to End Lynching. Such a situation is intolerable to the American people . . . Unequivocally, the Crusade's platform of full protection for the life and rights of Negroes must be made the touchstone of fitness for public office . . ."

Prior to the letter to Robeson, Collins let loose a dual blast at the "sit-down strikes" continued by the big meat packers and milk producers. The candidate denounced the reluctance of Gov. Tom Dewey to order an investigation to the artificial meat and milk shortage in New York.

Backed by the labor-liberal coalition composed of the CIO, NC-PAC, ALP and the Independent Citizens Committee, Collins was barred from the Republican and Democratic ballots in the recent primaries, but made political history by amassing a huge "write-in" vote, which accounted for 27 per cent of the entire vote cast in the 21st Senatorial District.

As head of the newly formed People's Rights party, Collins recently submitted 12,000 signatures on a nominating petition to the county board of elections. If elected, Collins will be the first Negro to sit in the New York State Senate as a duly elected representative.

Houston

NAACP Delegates Attending Anti Lynching Meet In DC

The Informer Houston, Texas

Sat. 9-28-46

HOUSTON—Mrs. C. V. Adair, assistant administrator, and M. L. Porter, chairman of the entertainment committee, Houston Branch NAACP, were en route to Washington, D. C. Saturday to join the pilgrimage September 23, on a crusade to end lynching.

34

The pilgrimage to Washington was called by the American Crusade to End Lynching in New York and Washington, and is being made by people from cities, towns, and farms all over the country and representatives from unions, churches, schools, and other organizations.

Findings of the American Crusade to End Lynchings are that the total number of recorded lynchings during the last six months exceeds the number for the entire period of the war. At least 41 have been reported since V-J Day in Georgia, Louisiana, Florida, South Carolina, Mississippi and the number is still on the increase.

Another finding of the movement was that in almost every instance the victim has been a recently returned veteran, all Negroes, and that there hasn't been a single arrest, indictment or conviction of any participant in any of the lynchings.

Chairman of the movement to Washington is Paul Roberson, who is assisted by Rabbi Barnett R.

Anti-Lynch Crusade Monday

The Worker New York, N.Y.

Sun. 9-22-46

By Claudia Jones

The southern lynchers are scot free after more than seven months, but they might well cower in their lairs, for the people of America are being roused to demand immediate action.

34

Such is the message in the giant pilgrimage of 2,000 persons to Washington, D. C., Monday, Sept. 23. This pilgrimage represents the growing anti-lynch spirit. Broadly representative of labor, civic, church, veteran, youth and other groups, the American Crusade to End Lynching will meet on the 84th anniversary of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation in the nation's capital.

It will proclaim to the land that the American people will not only lift their voices against the crime of lynching, but will organize to secure action now.

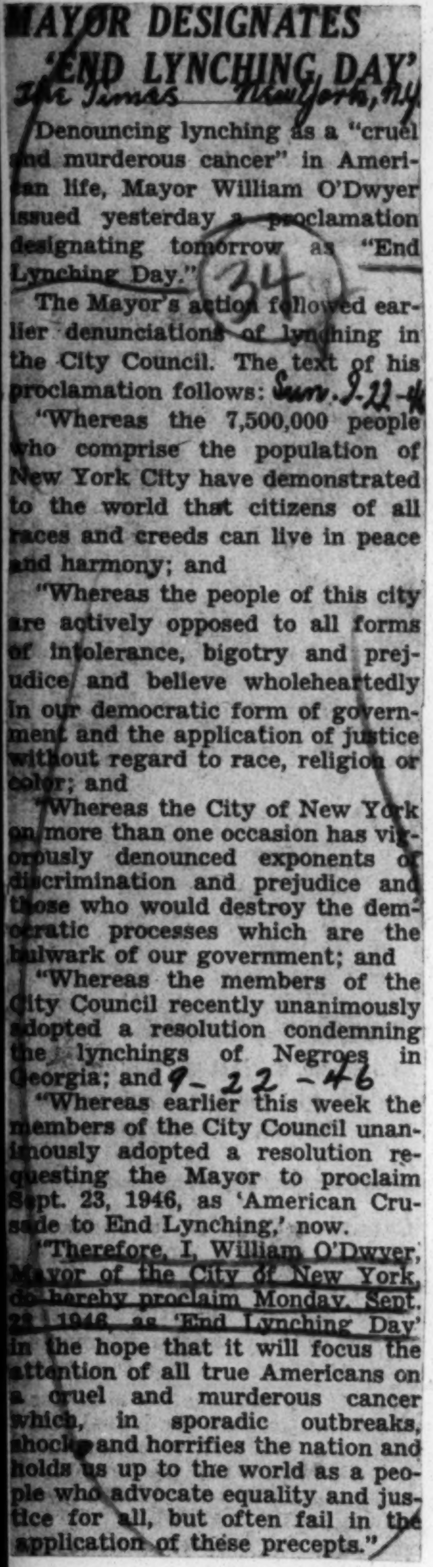
President Truman has agreed to meet with representatives of the anti-lynch crusade.

Will Truman commit himself in more than words for passage of an anti-lynch bill now?

Surely, this question more than deserves a forthright answer. For not a single conviction or even indictment against known lynchers has come from state or local authorities, despite the fact that more than 41 Negroes have been lynched since V-J Day.

Bruckner, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Rabbi J. M. Isserman, Canada Lee, Bishop B. G. Shaw, W. J. Walls, Orson Welles, Bishop R. R. Wright, Jr., Dr. Max Yergan, Quentin Reynolds, Bishop J. A. Gregg, Bishop J. A. Hamlett, Lena Horne, Albert Einstein, Lloyd K. Garrison, Carey McWilliams, Howard Murphy, Prof. Harlow Shapeley, Artie Shaw, Mrs. Harper Sibley, Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Milas S. Stehens, Frank Stanley, the Rev. John B. Thompson, Margaret Webster, and many others.

"End Lynching Day"



MAYOR DESIGNATES 'END LYNCHING DAY'

The Times New York, N.Y.

34

Denouncing lynching as a "cruel and murderous cancer" in American life, Mayor William O'Dwyer issued yesterday a proclamation designating tomorrow as "End Lynching Day."

The Mayor's action followed earlier denunciations of lynching in the City Council. The text of his proclamation follows: Sun. 9-22-4

"Whereas the 7,500,000 people who comprise the population of New York City have demonstrated to the world that citizens of all races and creeds can live in peace and harmony; and

"Whereas the people of this city are actively opposed to all forms of intolerance, bigotry and prejudice and believe wholeheartedly in our democratic form of government and the application of justice without regard to race, religion or color; and

"Whereas the City of New York on more than one occasion has vigorously denounced exponents of discrimination and prejudice and those who would destroy the democratic processes which are the bulwark of our government; and

"Whereas the members of the City Council recently unanimously adopted a resolution condemning the lynchings of Negroes in Georgia; and 9-22-46

"Whereas earlier this week the members of the City Council unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the Mayor to proclaim Sept. 23, 1946, as 'American Crusade to End Lynching,' now.

"Therefore, I, William O'Dwyer, Mayor of the City of New York, do hereby proclaim Monday, Sept. 23, 1946, as 'End Lynching Day' in the hope that it will focus the attention of all true Americans on a cruel and murderous cancer which, in sporadic outbreaks, shocks and horrifies the nation and holds us up to the world as a people who advocate equality and justice for all, but often fail in the application of these precepts."

7471

Byrnes OK'd Lynchings On Senate Floor in 1938

Daily Worker Mon. 8-26-46 New York, N.Y.

By Art Shields

34 general

South Carolina's James F. Byrnes was still ranting against the victims of lynch mobs in 1937, 27 years after he first went to Congress from Aiken.

The present Secretary of State still regarded lynchers as defenders of white womanhood in his speeches against the Federal anti-lynch bill in the United States Senate three years before he became a justice of the Supreme Court.

Byrnes' speeches during the filibuster against the anti-lynch bill in January and February, 1938, are even more violent in some respects than his early white supremacy declarations.

America's present foreign policy spokesman was jibing at New York's Democratic Senator Robert F. Wagner, one of the sponsors of the anti-lynch measure, during the debate.

"The proponents of this bill," cried the South Carolina Senator, with especial reference to Wagner, on Jan. 11, 1938, **"want the United States to protect the savage criminal, but deem it unnecessary to protect the innocent girls of the nation."**

The pages of the Congressional Record that day are studded with Byrnes' inflammatory assertions that the victims of lynch mobs are rapists. He repeated this hoary Ku Klux lie several times, notwithstanding the fact that less than 20 percent of the Negroes lynched in South Carolina were ever accused of this crime, and that Negro women were among the lynch victims.

Byrnes threatened that South Carolina would disregard any Federal anti-lynching bill that Congress might pass.

REBELLION STARTS

Rebellion against the impending law had already started, Byrnes implied, when he approvingly noted that **"last Saturday the Governor of South Carolina announced that if the bill should be enacted, never again would he order out the National Guard; that he would leave it to the United States Government to protect any defendant."**

Any prosecution of this Governor under the terms of this bill, which penalizes state officers who yield to lynchers, would make him a "hero" in South Carolina, declared Byrnes.

"Mr. President," said Byrnes, **"a law enacted by this Congress cannot be enforced when the people of a state believe they are being unjustly treated."**

By "the people" Byrnes didn't mean the Negroes nor the voteless poor whites of South Carolina.

EARLY START

Byrnes has been preaching the doctrine of state nullification of Federal laws since his anti-lynching speeches against the bill in 1921, when he warned that Southern juries sitting in Federal courts would not convict men for violating statutes they didn't like.

All this a century after the threats of South Carolina's first nullificationist, John C. Calhoun, had been stopped by President Andrew Jackson's vow to hang him if he carried them out.

Angry whites would take it out on the Negroes if this bill were passed, the Bourbon Senator insisted. He cited South Carolina history in support of this threat. Every attempt to enforce the state's own anti-lynching bill, assessing damages against counties where mob killings took place, resulted in more lynchings, he asserted. Thus, South Carolina's annual lynch toll jumped to 14 in 1898, from four the year before, Byrnes reported, after the first attempt to enforce the state's punitive measure. Lynchings rose again in turn after similar attempts to enforce the law in 1915, 1920 and 1924, he said, until, finally, the State Supreme Court virtually killed the measure by ruling that juries should decide whether a murder was lynching, or not. Mon. 8-26-46

Byrnes took the floor repeatedly during the lynch filibuster. Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga), Sen. Allen J. Ellender (D-La) and Sen. Tom Connally (D-Tex), present chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, and Byrnes, ally against the democracies of Europe, helped to talk the anti-mob violence measure to death.

The present Secretary of State was 58 then.

THOMAS L. STOKES

The Constitution

People Expect To Be Protected

Atlanta, Ga.

Mon. 8-19-46

34 gen

34 gen

WASHINGTON—It is becoming obvious that the Federal statutes for the protection of civil liberties must be revised and strengthened. This is clear from the recent lynching atrocities that have shocked the nation, and from the infringement of free voting rights by corrupt political machines which once more has been called to national attention by the outbreak in McMinn County, Tennessee, and by the traditional performance of Boss Ed H. Crump's Memphis organization.

In outstanding cases local officials have again failed to protect the lives of citizens and the rights guaranteed to them, or to punish those guilty of violations, all of which is the first duty of Government without regard to locality.

The Justice Department here has been deluged with pleas for action from people who look to their Government to protect them. Some of these pleas have been frantic. The Department has instituted investigations, both into lynchings and into allegations of voting frauds, under Civil Liberties Statutes. It has been critized for lack of results.

TO ALL this official reply that the Civil Liberties Statutes, though seemingly broad, have been so narrowed by court interpretations that it is difficult to operate effectively under them.

Attorney General Tom Clark, himself, has taken official notice of the demands and the criticism. He says his department is doing everything it can in the way of investigation and prosecution. At the same time he pointed to the tenuous nature of the Civil Liberties Statutes and suggested the need of further legislation to strengthen them. He will report the department's experience in operating under them when Congress reconvenes.

That represents some progress.

"As Attorney General, I have caused to be investigated all cases which might imply violations of the Civil Liberties Statutes," he said in an Ohio speech.

"FEDERAL action in most of these cases hangs upon a very thin thread of law. It is like trying to fight a modern atomic war with a Civil War musket. However, we have been unsuccessful in halting some displays of mob violence which I and all other citizens condemn.

"As I have stated, every resource at my command as head of your Department of Justice has been ordered into action to discover the perpetrators of the horrible crimes which have been committed. The same vigilance shall continue in all cases."

The department's efforts, he said, "will not stop there."

"The time has come when Congress may have to pass legislation to insure to all citizens the guarantees under the Constitution.

"When Congress returns, I shall file a report pointing out the facts and outlining the experience in these cases and, in addition, pointing out the weaknesses of the present federal statutes in the light of these incidents and the need for legislation to protect every citizen in his civil rights."

THIS PUTS the Attorney General on record and on the spot. He will be held accountable by the public for his department doing everything it can now and pushing legislation in Congress.

Other figures in the Government also are on the spot. Hitherto, Southern members of Congress have filibustered against measures to extend the authority of the Federal Government into the states for various purposes, among them, to punish lynchers.

The campaign for a Federal anti-lynching bill has diminished in recent years because of the almost complete disappearance of mob violence. But now it has appeared again, and in horrible forms.

The record now can hardly be ignored, nor can the case for strengthening the Civil Liberties Statutes which the Attorney General says he will present to the next Congress.

A citizen is a citizen, whether he be white or black, and whether he lives in Georgia or Mississippi or Louisiana or Illinois or New York or South Dakota or California, or anywhere else. It is about time to recognize that. The Constitution makes no exception for localities.

Anti-Mob Power Sought by Clark

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

Mon. 9-16-46

By FRED MULLEN

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15—(UP)—U. S. Atty. Gen. Tom Clark will ask the new Congress for a powerful set of laws to replace the present "thin thread," under which the Federal Government is seeking to combat the evils of mob brutality, it was revealed Sunday night.

34 gen.

Already he and his lieutenants in the Justice Department are shaping up public sentiment in favor of laws which will give them firm power to make the Bill of Rights what they call "a reality instead of a group of idealistic words in the Constitution."

Lynchings, the blinding and maiming of the helpless, particularly members of minority groups, in all parts of the country, have led to demands for stern Federal action. But there has not been much which Clark and his Department have been able to do because their jurisdiction is restricted.

Knowing that Federal prosecution was not possible in some of the more violent cases, Clark nevertheless has sent in the crack agents of the FBI to run down those responsible, with the aim of turning over what evidence was found to State authorities who do have the power to prosecute.

This policy has been followed in such instances as the mass lynching of four Negroes, including two women, at Monroe, Ga., in July.

The hunt for the 20 or so white men who made up the mob which shot down the Negroes is still on, but FBI agents and the investigators assigned by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation have met only silence from the farmers and other residents of the Monroe area.

Mon. 9-16-46

Meantime, two cases involving civil rights were being prepared for trial in October. One involves peonage, the other the murder of a Negro.

Tom A. Crews, 42, of Branford, Fla., will go on trial at Jacksonville Oct. 1 charged with violating the Civil Rights laws in connection with the slaying of Sam McFadden, 60, Negro farmhand.

[illegible] AGAINST CREWS

It is charged that Crews, while [illegible] Marshal of Branford, deprived the Negro of his constitutional right to fair trial by jury [illegible]

[illegible] is being prosecuted carries maximum penalties of only a year's imprisonment or $1,000 fine, or both.

34 peonage

In the peonage case, Roswell P. Biggers, 65-year-old Rockdale County, Ga., farmer, is charged with forcing involuntary servitude on five Negro workers. He allegedly had them arrested on "trumped-up" charges and then "bought them out" by going bond to work on his 1,000-acre plantation near Conyers, Ga. He will be tried in Atlanta under the anti-peonage law which provides maximum penalties of five years' imprisonment or $5,000 fine, or both.

PICKENS PEONAGE CASE

A second peonage case is in the formative stage. It involves R. B. Doughty, of Pickens County, Ala., Representative-elect to the State Legislature, who was arraigned at Tuscaloosa last week with two other men on charges of peonage. They were accused of holding a Negro and forcing him to work out a debt. Each was released under $1,000 bail pending Federal Grand Jury action.

The only other statute under which the Government can assume jurisdiction covers conspiracies to injure persons in the exercise of their civil rights, such as voting, but this covers only Federally-secured rights and does not deal with relationships between individuals, one to another. Thus, even this gives little power to get at mobs.

Mon. 17

Just what form Clark's recommendations will take has not been outlined, but various proposals have long been under study and will soon be drafted into concrete suggestions as to the type of legislation needed.

Anti-Lynch Law Being Planned By Senators

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

9-17-46

WASHINGTON—(SNS)— A group of bi-partisan senators Monday announced plans to fight for a federal anti-lynch law when the 80th Congress convenes in January.

34 gen.

Senator James M. Mead, Democrat, New York, said he and 12 colleagues would contend for the measure in spite of opposition of Southerners and other members of Congress who champion states' rights. He said:

Recent lychings have added emphasis to the urgent necessity for enactment of a federal anti-lynching bill." He added that atmosphere is favorable for introducing such a measure.

Mead did not predict passage of the bill in the Senate.

He said that he would be supported by Senator Robert F. Wagner, Dem., New York, co-sponsor of an anti-lynch measure that died in committee in the last Congress; and Senators Knowland, Rep. Cal., Langer, Rep. North Dakota, Maguson, Dem., Washington, Tunnell, Dem, Delaware, Mitchell, Democrat, Washington, Taylor, Democrat, Idaho, Huffman, Democrat, Ohio, Guffey, Democrat, Pennsylvania, Thomas, Democrat, Utah, Walsh, Democrat, Massachusetts and Morse, Republican, Oregon.

Senator Carl A. Hatch, Democrat, New Mexico, said he deplored lynchings as much as anyone else but that he felt a federal anti-lynch statute would be "clear violation of the constitutional rights of state."

STATES RIGHTS AND HUMAN WRONGS

The News Birmingham, Ala. Tues. 9-?-46

To the Editor of The News:

Virginia has a record of no lynchings for at least 14, and probably 19 years. This is attributed to the Virginia anti-lynching law.

34 gen.

Murder is a crime by the laws of any state and accessories both before and after the fact are guilty of crime. Laws are not self-enforcing, men must uphold them, otherwise they are merely guide posts ignored by those who choose to follow evil paths.

But the men of Virginia have a high regard for the honor of Virginia. Her men are neither traitors nor cowards.

Some states object strenuously to any law making lynching a federal offense, yet federal aid is welcomed against the horrid crime of kidnaping because our people do not choose to give protection to those who perpetrate such infamies. The same sentiment should prevail with regard to lynching. State rights should not be made coincident with human wrongs. Grover Cleveland once remarked: "We are confronted with a condition, not a theory." Facts are important. It is not an injury to the state if an offense against the peace and dignity of the state is punished with and by assistance of the federal authorities when the state fails, or declines, to give protection to its citizens. The state should not take the position of the dog in the manger. If she cannot, or will not, act herself, she should permit the federal government to do so.

Uncle Sam should not be fenced in by state boundaries to prevent him from protecting his citizens as fully at home as abroad. We have endeavored at vast expense of blood and treasure to guard the lives of our citizens in foreign lands. They should be safe at home too.

Little bands of lawless men wage an undercover war against the constitution and laws of the United States and the lives and liberties of its citizens. Traitors and murderers as they are, they successfully use this fantastic barrier of states' rights to protect them in the commission of their crimes. Let Congress sweep away these flimsy cobwebs that obstruct justice, and then destroy the vermin who shelter behind them. Decent people, North or South, will shed no tears over them.

ARCHIBALD LEISHMAN.

2718 16th Court, North.

Ella Fitzgerald Rendering Real Service

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Ella Fitzgerald, singing star, has worked out details of a long range fund raising campaign to aid the families of lynch victims. The plan calls for organized contributions by the theatrical and entertainment professions for the victims of the savagery of Dixie mobsters.

In order to have a constant flow of money into the coffers for this worthy cause, she is asking band leaders and theatre owners to cooperate with established agencies in raising funds in various localities by allocating a part of the proceeds to this fund.

Sat. 9-21-46

Whom the Mobs Destroy...

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Old words to a new tune were sung in Georgia recently when the uncle of a white attack suspect made an urgent appeal for police protection for himself.

Sat. 9-21-46

Police had already braved a hail of bullets to save from a mob the man suspected of beating and strangling a white woman to death. Because he had helped, the uncle says that angry neighbors threatened to burn down his $8,000 home unless he moved out. He appealed to the governor for aid.

We have always said that the pattern for mob violence does not necessarily follow racial lines. It bears out the AFRO's prophecy that under lynch law, nobody's life is safe.

As long as lawlessness against any minority is countenanced and encouraged, just that long must the majority shiver and quake, knowing full well that sooner or later that same lawlessness will strike back against it.

The Talmadges and Bilbos started the ball rolling by encouraging the lynching of colored people. Here is evidence that the practice can and will spread to white people. The climax will come when the mob will get Talmadge and Bilbo.

34 gen.

Groups Over Nation Demand Anti-Lynch Law

Daily World

FBI Still Probing Walton County Mass Killings July 25th

Atlanta, Ga.

Tues. 9-17-46

WASHINGTON—(SNS)— It was revealed that U. S. Atty Gen. Tom Clark will ask the next Congress for laws which will increase anti-mob powers of the Federal Government.

34 gen.

Lynchings, the blinding and maiming of helpless members of minority groups have brought demands for stern Federal action from many organizations over the nation. There has been little that the Department of Justice could do because of the restriction of jurisdiction.

Although Federal prosecution was not possible in some of the most violent cases, Atty Gen. Clark has sent some of his crack FBI agents into areas to run down evidence to be turned over to the State authorities.

The hunt is still on for the 20 or more white men who formed the mob which lynched four Negroes in Walton County, Georgia.

While there is no indication of an early break in the Walton County lynchings, the FBI is definitely on the job, and in spite of the fact that the federal agents refuse to disclose any information about the investigation, it is clear that they are determined to remain in this area until they round up the members of the mob.

If the names of the mobsters and addresses are definitely known, they have not been made public. Meanwhile, the members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation are working overtime in an effort to ferret out information which will bring the lynchers to justice.

C. E. Weeks, special agent of the New Orleans FBI is in charge of investigation. Although he would not reveal the exact number of federal men stationed in Walton County, he did admit "several are here."

The G-men have set up headquarters and together with the regular residents, occupy all but about two of the rooms at the Monroe Hotel. It is estimated that the number of agents range from 20 to 30, and there are at least four secretaries on hand to handle the clerical work.

It is reported that hundreds of residents of Walton and adjacent counties have been questioned and numerous homes have been visited. It has also come to light that many pictures have been made of homes and individuals.

Two cases are being prepared for trial in October, one is peonage, the other murder.

Tom A. Crews will go on trial October 1 for the violations of civil rights in connection with the slaying of Sam McFadden, 60 Negro farmhand, a year ago.

Roswell P. Biggers, 65-year-old Rockdale County, Ga., farmer is charged with forcing involuntary servitude on five Negro workers.

7472

GLADSTONE WILLIAMS

Constitution

Adjournment Prevents Anti-Lynching Bill

Atlanta Ga.

Wed 7-31-46

WASHINGTON—The latest outburst of mob violence near Monroe has done more than anything that has happened in a decade to undermine the efforts of Southern Congressmen to prevent passage of a Federal anti-lynch law.

34 General

No similar incident in recent years has so aroused Congress as the one at Monroe.

There is little doubt that swift action would be forthcoming on an anti-lynch bill, if Congress were not on the verge of adjournment. It would probably be more drastic than anything of the kind yet proposed.

As it is, the subject seems certain to be revived with great force when the new Congress convenes. January will be the next meeting date, unless the need for emergency legislation forces a special session in the interim.

During the past 20 years Southern Congressmen have had to be continually on the alert to prevent passage of stringent laws aimed at lynching. One of the first was the so-called Lodge Force Bill, proposed back in the days of the Harding administration.

None of the bills has ever succeeded in reaching a final vote in the Senate. Southern Senators have been able to ward off a vote by the use of filibuster tactics. In this they have been aided by outside members who generally saw in the bills a political maneuver.

7-31-46

Demands Grow

Liberal elements of the country, particularly those embracing Negro memberships, have long put up a clamor for a Federal anti-lynch law. The demands have grown more vociferous with each new incident of mob violence, whether it was in the South or elsewhere.

But the inspiration of all such bills has generally been some incident in the South. Southern Congressmen have protested that the law was aimed especially at their section.

What Southern Congressmen have objected to most in the bills was a provision giving the Federal Government authority to step into the case with its own investigators and prosecutors when State authorities failed to apprehend the instigators of lynchings.

That would mean that Federal authority would supersede State officials in cases of the kind. The FBI would be empowered to act, and the FBI usually gets its man. Moreover, trial would be in the Federal rather than in the State courts.

The South has been saved from drastic anti-lynch laws in the past only by virtue of the success of Southern members in waging filibusters.

Wednesday 7-31-46

These filibusters could not have been conducted with any degree of success, except for the tacit aid lent by other outside Senators in refusing to invoke cloture, the rule by which a limitation is placed on senatorial debate.

Filibuster

Any one of the various anti-lynch bills would have commanded a majority in the past, if cloture had been imposed on debate. The bills were talked to death by the lack of cloture. The filibuster is the thing that has saved the section from the stringent provisions of such measures.

But so heinous was the crime committed near Monroe last week that it is doubtful that the old standards would prevail in the Senate. The South has lost many of its former friends because of the terrible incident in Georgia.

It was not merely that another lynching had taken place. Nor was it entirely that this marked the first multiple lynching that has occurred in a number of years. If it had been a mob outbreak resulting from the usual crime of rape, the circumstances might have been different.

It is fortunate for the South that Congress is on the verge of adjournment. An anti-lynch bill cannot be taken up because it would delay the program for adjournment indefinitely.

Otherwise there would be certain to arise the most determined demands that have yet been heard for an all-embracing law on the subject of lynching. And the bill, this time, would be sure to pass. No filibuster could stand up against the sense of outraged justice that prevails in Congress as a result of the Monroe incident.

Illinois Legislators Urge Anti-Lynch Law

Constitution

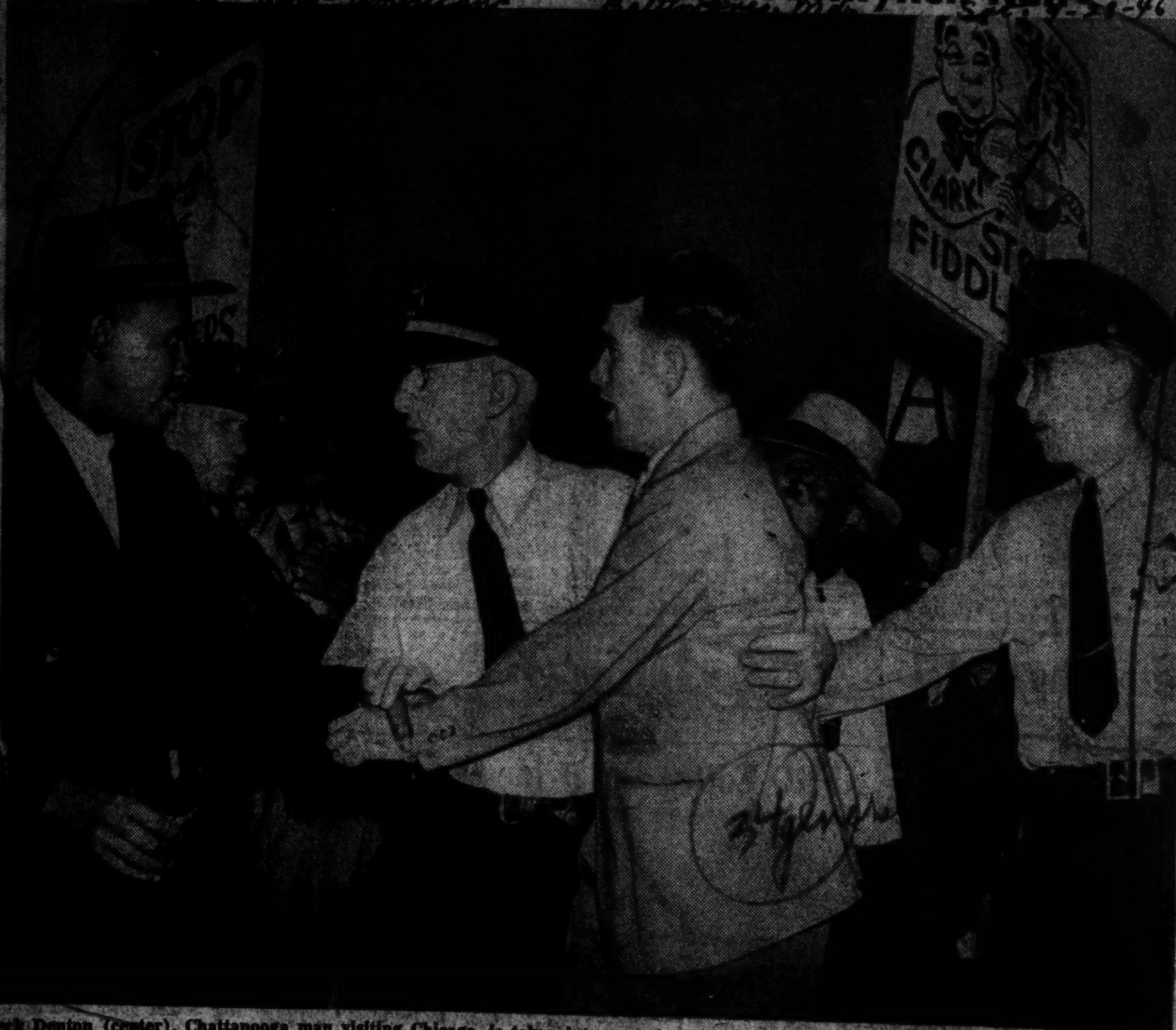
Atlanta Ga.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., July 31—(AP) The Illinois House of Representatives adopted a resolution Wednesday condemning the "wanton murder" of four Negroes July 25 near Monroe, Ga. The resolution, which awaits Senate action, urged the Georgia Legislature to enact an anti-lynching law similar to the Illinois statute.

Thur-8-1-46

Dixie Visitor Disrupts Chicago Antilynch Rally

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 9-28-46



Leck Denton (center), Chattanooga man visiting Chicago, is taken into custody by Capt. George Johnstone during antilynching rally, last week. Denton was accused of cutting a rally microphone cable, denied the accusation, and was released on $50 bail for a later hearing.

Southerner Charged With Halting Antilynch Rally

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 9-28-46

CHICAGO — (ANP) — A white Southerner must face court here Sept. 23 on charges of malicious mischief and disorderly conduct, growing out of an alleged attempt to sabotage an anti-lynching rally here Sept. 16 at the Congress St. plaza by cutting the wire of the public address system.

Leck P. Denton, 31-year-old native of Chattanooga, was surrounded quickly by a furious group of white and colored people when Rabbi Jacob Weinstein's words suddenly became inaudible to the 2,000 listeners and Miss Louise Crutcher pointed Denton out as the person who cut the amplifier's wire.

Prompt action by park police saved him from being badly mauled by the angry mixed group.

He was rushed to Central police headquarters where members of the Chicago Citizens committee Against Lynching demanded that he be held on Miss Crutcher's signed complaint.

A finger of responsibility for the act was pointed at Park Police Sgt. S. Dubois, who allegedly turned his back while Denton cut the wire. He was quoted as saying, "they should have just connected the wire and gone on with the meeting."

Judge Daley decided to continue the case until Sept. 23, when evidence will be submitted on the background of Denton's motives. He came here as a delegate to the AFL Bakers and Confectionary Workers International convention at the Congress hotel.

An Appeal to Our Readers:

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

We ask just two questions:

Do you want to see the Monroe, Ga., and Minden, La., lynchers successfully prosecuted?

Are you willing to contribute a small sum of money for that purpose?

It takes money to fight injustices in these United States. If your rights are worth fighting for, then they are worth paying for.

Here is an appeal from Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, asking your aid in a most important step to combat the terrible wave of mob violence now sweeping the South:

"Our investigators of the blowtorch lynching of John Jones at Minden, La., have found an eyewitness who can furnish evidence leading to positive identification of fourteen members of the mob, three of them deputy sheriffs, who butchered Jones with a meat cleaver, burned him to a crisp with a blow torch and shot his 15-year-old cousin, Albert Harris Jr.

Sat. 8-31-46

"This eye-witness is willing to come to New York to testify. But, because he is a Negro with a dependent family to support, it is obvious that he nor his family can never return to the South.

"The same situation obtains in Walton County, Ga. There are certain key witnesses who are willing to testify, but, understandably, cannot be asked to do so unless we can find them employment and get them established in the North.

"This runs into real money, but until we can slap into jail and punish the perpetrators of these horrible outrages, the wave of mob violence will continue to spread like wildfire."

This is an urgent appeal for funds from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Send your contributions to Walter White, Willkie Memorial Bldg., 20 West Fortieth Street, New York, N. Y.

Truman Reaffirms Stand for Antilynching Measure

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-10-46

WASHINGTON

Sentiment for Federal legislation curbing lynching warmed here, last week, after the brutal murders of four Georgia citizens and two Mississippians, as President Truman indicated that he would sign an anti-lynch bill if it were presented to him.

Mr. Truman told newspapermen that as a Senator he had voted for anti-lynch legislation every time it was brought up. No further statement on the Georgia murders was made by the President at the conference.

An anti-lynch law, requested by Major William E. Spence, chief of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, when he declared State authorities unable to cope with such crimes, has not been introduced into this session of Congress.

However, Sen. Joseph F. Guffey (Dem., Pa.) stated, last Tuesday, that the Georgia murders demonstrate the need for a Federal anti-lynching law, and Rep. William C. Klein (Dem., N.Y.) declared he was in favor of such legislation.

Troop Intervention Sought

Mr. Klein's statement came on Tuesday, after he was informed that Leon McAtie had been whipped to death by six white men in Holmes County Mississippi.

In addition to favoring anti-lynch legislation, Klein demanded that the Federal Government enter Mississipi "either with troops or the FBI" to prevent further lynchings.

Mr. Klein said this was the "second lynching that we have had recently, and I think it is only the beginning. The bolder they get, the more lynchings we will have."

Georgians Oppose Law

Georgia's two solons, however, Sens. Walter F. George and Richard B. Russell, saw no possibility that Congress would pass anti-lynch legislation.

In the past, bills to make mob action a Federal offense have met the same fate as fair employment practice and anti-poll tax legislation. Senate filibusters have killed them.

"I deplore the crime, but I am not willing to admit Georgia is unable to enforce its own laws within its own borders without outside help," Russell said in commenting on the Georgia lynchings.

Senator George had no direct comment on the request for Federal anti-lynching legislation made by Major Spence.

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Editor, War Vet, Recalls Old Lynching as Timely Warning

Afro American Baltimore, Md. Sat 8-16-46

CHICAGO (ANP)—The lynching of Will Lockett, World War I veteran at Lexington, Ky., 25 years ago, and often referred to as the "Second Battle of Lexington," is recalled in a story in the current issue of the Atlantic Monthly, written by Joe Jordan, an eyewitness.

Jordan, recently discharged from the Navy after two and a half years' service, and now city editor of the Lexington Leader, declares in the article, "Lynchers Don't Like L[illegible] Americans of every state would do well to remember this happening."

Acting with "characteristic vigor," the late Governor Edwin P. Morrow, Jordan writes, obtained Federal troops when lawlessness was apparent. When the mob advanced on the courthouse, the troops fired. One man was killed, 50 wounded, and the rest fled.

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Truman Gets Lynch Threat Plea

Constitution

Constitution State News Service

MACON, Aug. 8—An alleged lynching threat to a CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union organizer here has resulted in protests from the union to President Truman, Atty. Gen. Tom Clark and Gov. Arnall. Fri 8-9-46

The union with headquarters in Chicago, said in a statement that Mike Ross, 27, who had been active in the organization of Negro and white workers in the CIO Southern organizational drive, had been threatened with lynching if he did not leave the State.

The union wired President Truman and the attorney general asking their intervention since "local law enforcement officials are either unwilling or unable to arrest the criminals and guarantee the safety of law-abiding citizens."

Gov. Arnall was asked to guarantee the safety of Ross and other unionists.

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Anti-Lynch Bids Net Postal Probe

Constitution

Atlanta Ga. Sun 8-11-46

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10—(AP)—The Post Office Department said Saturday it is investigating the use of an OPA free-postage envelope to mail an invitation to an anti-lynching meeting held here Monday.

A Department official said the envelope and invitation were submitted to the Department by the Senate Postmaster.

Sen. Bilbo, Democrat, Mississippi, told newsmen at the Capitol that he had received an invitation to the meeting in an OPA postage-free envelope and that he had turned the letter and envelope over t othe Postal Inspectors and asked for an investigation.

Inspector-in-Charge Joseph Vick has ordered an investigation, it was said at the Post Office Department.

A postage-free envelope—called penalty mail in the Government—is permitted for official business by Government departments. They carry a printed reminder of a $300 penalty for use on non-official matters.

At the meeting held here Monday night at the Lincoln Memorial, speakers assailed Bilbo and Governor-nominate Talmadge as "The spiritual leaders of mob violence in the South."

Several thousand persons—two-third of them Negroes—attended the rally to protest the recent lynchings of four Negroes in Georgia. Sun 8-11-46

Available officials at OPA, contacted by newsmen, said they had not previously heard of the invitation envelope incident, but that the agency would get in touch with Post Office officials at once to offer co-operation in the investigation.

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Club Bids U. S. Halt Lynching

Times New York N.Y.

The Dennison Democratic Association, 32-45 102d Street, Corona, Queens, wrote to President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark yesterday, asking for prompt action by the Federal Government to stamp out lynching. The association said it would ask Congress to institute "impeachment proceedings against such men as Messrs. [John E.] Rankin and [Theodore G.] Bilbo."

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Federal Law Asked Against Lynchings

Winston-Salem, N. C., Aug. 30—(P)—Asst. Atty. Gen. Theron L. Caudle today called for federal legislation to punish those guilty of lynchings and other "primitive brutal acts."

He told the North Carolina Bar Association that the nation was faced with a "mounting social tension" which at time erupts into mob violence and "denies segments of our citizens of their basic liberties and rights."

Caudle, head of the Justice Department's criminal division and president of the Federal Bar Association, said inadequate statutes now left the Federal Government virtually powerless to deal with mobbs that spill blood of minority groups.

"Perhaps intolerance cannot be legislated out of existence," he said, "but we can and should legislate to punish those acts of violence that intolerance breeds."

Caudle said all "right thinking Americans have felt shame at a series of attacks and brutal occurrences directed at various persons reported from certain troubled areas of our country."

He spoke proudly of the record of his native North Carolina in racial relationships, and urged that all state and local authorities throughout the nation join in the drive to avert mob violence and rule.

"The flames of hate, prejudice and un-Americanism," he said, "are fanned by misguided individuals who under the false banner of so-called '100 per cent Americanism' perpetuate the alien concepts which we fought to stamp out abroad—the turning of one man's hand against another because of differences of race, creed or color; the placing of the ruffian, the fanatic, and the vigilante above the law and at the same time placing beyond the pale and protection of the law, the oppressed and the innocent."

He said that the challenge must be met "for we know that in the struggle to preserve basic liberties, we must preserve them not only for those whom we like and with whom we agree, but as well for those whom we may not like and with whom we may disagree."

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Europe Excited Over Lynchings

The Afro-American

By DOUGLASS HALL

PARIS, France—I have just returned to Paris from London.

The newspapers, soap box orators and barber shop gossips are all "het" up over the lynchings in democratic America.

Every London paper plays up the incident with two-inch headlines. Baltimore, Md.

Beaten Enemies Moved

In Paris, Frenchmen expressed sympathy over the incident as though the victims were my blood relatives. Sat. 10-5-46

Italians also are deeply concerned, and even the broken Germans, if they figure they are on the safe side, dare to express an opinion. Afro American

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Next week the AFRO reprints on its magazine page the "Sunday Pictorial's" story of American lynchings, titled, "Silent Citizens of Georgia."]

You won't want to miss the English editor's scathing denunciation of American mob law and his conclusion: Baltimore, Md.

" . . . and yet America has the nerve to lecture the whole world on democracy and moral principles." Sat. 10-5-46

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Gary Citizens Condemn Lynch Terror in South

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Fri. 9-27-46

Special to the Daily Worker

GARY, Ind., Sept. 26.—Two hundred Negro and white citizens filled the Coral Room at the YMCA here to condemn lynch terror against the Negro people of the Southland.

Sponsored by the Gary Unity The following resolutions were adopted:

1. Calling on Gov. Gates to alert state law enforcement agencies against attempts to revive the KKK in Indiana.

2. Calling upon Attorney-General Clark to arrest and convict for murder those responsible for the recent lynchings. 9-27-46

3. Urging President Truman to call a special session of Congress to enact effective anti-lynch legislation.

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WRIGHT BRYAN

Virginia Shows How to Stop Lynchings

VIRGINIA IS a Southern state, once the political headquarters and the military leader of the Confederacy, with the same traditions and, potentially at least, the same racial tensions as Georgia. Virginia has not had a lynching in almost 20 years.

The last confirmed case of lynching in Virginia was in 1927 when a Negro was killed by a mob following his arrest on a murder charge. There was another suspicious occurrence in 1932 when a Negro charged with attacking a farmer and his wife was found hanging from a tree, but the coroner's verdict was suicide. Since 1932 there has been no incident in Virginia which could be construed as a lynching.

Much of the credit for this gratifying condition must go to the attitude of the people of Virginia and to the diligence of their law enforcement officials.

Lynching cannot be separated entirely from other crimes. Where violence of any kind is allowed to go unpunished, mobs will be encouraged to take matters into their own hands. Where law and order is the rule there can be little danger of lynching.

Attitude of the People

But lynching is one of the most dastardly of crimes because those who commit it and who condone it pretend to be doing so in the name of justice. Most crimes are recognized for what they are and condemned by all law-abiding citizens. Not so with lynching. Too many people—any number would be too many—by their silence or their open approval encourage it.

Virginia has taken the practical and humane way of avoiding a federal antilynching law of the type which is dreaded by all those who believe in local self-government. Virginia has its own antilynching law. And it works.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch is authority for the following statement:

"Undoubtedly one of the major reasons for the excellent record of Virginia in this sphere is to be found in the trail-breaking Byrd Antilynching Law, which Governor Harry F. Byrd was instrumental in putting through the General Assembly during his administration.

All Mob Members Guilty

"This law subjects all members of a lynching mob to murder charges, and empowers the Governor to send the Attorney-General into a county to prosecute and to spend the State's funds on the prosecution.

"While Virginia's lynching record was among the best prior to the passage of this law, the effect of the legislation unquestionably has been to deter mobsters from going into action. We have gone for at least 14 years now without a lynching, and probably for 19."

There must be merit in legislation which contributes to such a record.

The first step in clearing Georgia's good name must be to punish those guilty under our present laws of the crimes which have been committed.

The next step might well be enactment of such a law as the one which has been successful in Virginia.

If all the states would adopt and enforce such measures there would be no need for or danger of a federal antilynching law.

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NEW HIGH IN SAVAGERY

Ignorance Rivals Brutality In Lynchers

Defender

By ENOC P. WATERS JR.
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

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Recently residents of Chicago's South side saw the body of a Negro man hanging from an "L" structure, dashed hysterically to their phones and notified newspapers and police of a lynching.

Subsequent investigation proved that a fear-ridden factory worker who had beaten his wife to death in a jealous rage had chosen hanging as the best way out of his dilemma, and the elevated structure as the best locale for his suicidal act.

Chicago, Ill.

Significant, however, were the thought processes that allowed these people to accept the possibility of a lynching in Chicago. It is obvious that their thinking was conditioned by the contagion of anti-Negro violence that has been raging throughout the nation since V-J Day. So erratic has been the trail of riots, pogroms, beatings and bombings that a lynching in Chicago would have been shocking, but certainly not surprising.

Peak In South

8-24-46

These anti-Negro demonstrations though not confined to the South, have certainly reached the peak there for frequency and savagery.

There is very little to be found in the chronicles of violence in the United States to match the Columbia, Tenn., pogrom, the beating and blinding of Isaac Woodard by a Batesburg, S. C., police chief three hours after his discharge from the army and the mass lynching in Monroe, Ga.

In contemplating these and other less celebrated assaults upon Negroes, one is not concerned so much with the barbarity of Southern atrocities, as with the reasons for this resurgence of violence after 10 years of relative order.

In quoting lynching statistics, one must always preface any figure with the word "recorded" since it is generally accepted that some lynchings are so effectively covered up as to not come to the attention of the general public.

However, since 1936, the number of recorded lynchings per year has not exceeded eight. Compared with the previous decade with its 1926 high of 30 and a 1932 low of eight, the '36-'45 period was relatively free of violence.

"Primal Savagery"

The primal savagery of the Southern whites who indulge in these sadistic orgies is historical and sociologists have a multiplicity of answers for it.

An observation I made overseas during the war has taken on a new significance since my return. [illegible] that our [illegible] though not necessarily the bravest—soldiers were those with limited education. They could kill, maim and torture coolly and dispassionately.

One day I ran across a group of marines sitting around a steaming gas drum eating rations. Upon inquiry I learned that the drum was being used to boil flesh from a half dozen heads of Japanese soldiers the skulls of whom were to be sent home as souvenirs.

These men who went calmly about this gruesome business were all, I discovered from talking with them, ignorant Southern backwoodsmen. Their callousness grew out of a feeling that the Japanese were subhumans who had the audacity to match themselves against white men.

I thought, as I heard them talk, that their attitude could very easily be transferred to Negroes upon their return home. I think this has come to pass. Columbia, Monroe, Batesburg, and Athens are all small towns with only limited educational opportunities, where the people are provincial and their concepts are based on strong inbred prejudices.

Reason For Barbarism

But our greatest concern at the moment is not with the savagery of these ill-lettered Southern whites, but with the reasons for their barbaric revels.

In almost every community during my recent tour of the South, I had opportunity to talk with Negroes and intelligent whites who were bewildered by this wave of violence and sincerely anxious to find an answer for it.

Why is it happening, they almost invariably asked.

The answer seems simple to me. The Negro is a not-impassive puck that is being shunted back and forth by two opposing forces between goals of rigid uncompromising reaction and equally unyielding liberalism. Every time the progressives advance, or attempt to, the reactionaries attack and push it back.

The violent assaults of the gallus-snapping reactionaries are evidence of the progress being made by the more liberal elements. These disgraceful exhibitions are Southern growing pains, and to the extent that they occur elsewhere, the growing pains of the nation. It is regrettable that the Negro as the puck in this hockey game of opposing philosophies suffers most. It is an indictment of our civilization that progress towards an ideal must be marked by these violent episodes. But even at the cost of death to a few, suffering to a greater number, and shame that should be shared by all, the fight to move forward is worth the violent resistence encountered.

Violence In Progress

For six months I have been observing this titantic struggle. I have reached the conclusion that more often than not these violent outbursts occur where progressive forces are in action.

Progressivism in the South is marked by a new assertiveness among Negroes, a greater determination on their part to stay there and fight for what they are due rather than escape to the North leaving the problem unsolved. It is manifested through an exercise of the right to vote, by the coalition of Negroes and whites seeking the same objective; by recognition of the need for workers to organize, by a desire for greater educational opportunities and a realization of the basic sameness of all men and the right of all to certain fundamental privileges.

There is ample substantiation of this in the causes back of the disturbances since V-J Day.

The Columbia pogrom grew out of the refusal of a Negro naval veteran to stand supinely by and allow his mother to be abused by two white men.

The Monroe mass massacre was resentment on the part of whites to a Negro fighting back.

Athens Incident

Sat

The Athens incident was another manifestation of frustration on the part of whites unable to check the rising assertiveness of Negroes.

Woodard was beaten and blinded because he represented the Negro veteran who, collectively, is the element most feared by Southern reactionaries.

Seventy-five-year-old Napolean Rivers was beaten in Mobile, not because of any act of his, but because Negroes, acting under an authority beyond the reach of local reactionaries exercised their right to vote.

The beating of Etoy Fletcher, the election day murder of F. C. Fowler, the beating of Willie Henry, and of John Taylor, both veterans, the assaults upon four Wacs at Elizabethtown, Ky., and the flogging of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pinkney are all a part of the same thing.

The Chicago house bombings, the Gary, New York and Philadelphia high school strikes, the Freeport killings, the disgraceful California home burning and double murder are all phases of resistence to the gradual but persistent forward surge of Negroes toward a status long denied them.

Historical Excuse Dropped

Is it not odd that the historical Southern justification for attacks upon the Negro is very seldom used today? I know of only one lynching since V-J Day that had its genesis in an alleged attempt on the part of the victim to assault a white woman. That was the Jesse James Payne case of Florida. The Eufaula, Ala., reign of terror is similarly supposed to have grown out of the arrest of a Negro, Peter Paul Hall, on a "suspicion of rape" charge.

The reason for the South's abandonment of its chivalrous vigilance over the chastity of white womanhood is concern over a more fearsome development—the refusal of the Negro to remain docile and patient, and the emergence of an increasing number of articulate Southern whites as his champion.

There appears to be no evidence on today's horizon that would justify the prediction of a decline of violence in the immediate future.

Failure Of FBI

As great a blot on the escutheon of the nation as the barbarisms themselves has been the questionable failure of the highly rated FBI to flush out Southern anti-Negro hoodlums and the strange legal shennanigans of the Department of Justice that become excited over the theft of a ham from a dining car, but can find no authority to prosecute known lynchers.

With Bilbos and Talmadges getting ballot box applause for their hymns of hate; professional prejudice peddlers collecting tribute for bootlegged, spurious racial superiority and industrialists persuading poor, ignorant, frustrated whites to further impoverish themselves by fighting organized labor to "keep the nigger down" the future is dark indeed.

Ironically, and regretfully the only sparks of hope in the stygian darkness are more lynchings, mobbings, pogroms, floggings, massacres and killings.

Almost every one since V-J Day has been accompanied by progress and enough of them might shake the nation out of its apathy and erouse its indignation to a point that the tread of marching towards our high ideals will be accelerated and increased in volume.

ROBERT QUILLEN

The Constitution

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Lynching And the Law

Atlanta, Ga.

Fri. 11-22-46

Recently a committee called upon President Truman to demand that he do something about lynching. One of the group even made threats.

Members of the committee seemed to believe that lynching could be prevented by Federal law.

Virtually all Americans deplore and condemn lynching, but many do not know what it is.

There are many who think it means the killing of a colored man by a group of white men. That is lynching, but it is not the definition of lynching. In no dictionary or reference book or law book will you find it so defined.

LYNCHING IS KILLING or punishing without due process of law, usually by a mob or self-organized group. (Note the word "usually.") Apparently a lynching can be done by one man.

A lynching mob is said to "take the law into its own hands," as a wronged husband does when he kills a man who "violated his home."

When people are accused of "taking the law into their own hands," and urged to "let the law take its course," the assumption is that properly constituted authorities would take similar action, but in a manner prescribed by law.

Lynching was common in pioneer days in settlements where courts had not yet been established. Men were lynched for murder, rape and horse stealing—for a man was helpless without his horse. Vigilantes provided the only justice and security. Though a mob, they represented the will of the people.

LYNCHING IS NOW the negation of law and order. It destroys the chief foundation stone of civilization, which is justice under law.

Preventing lynching by Federal law would be as difficult as preventing any other kind of murder.

Class or group legislation—that is, a law to hurt or benefit one group without affecting others—would be un-Constitutional. The Supreme Court would quickly declare it so. If the law fails to apply to all persons alike, as in Nazi Germany and in Russia, there can be no democracy.

When New York longshoremen seized and murdered a minor official whose policies they disliked, that was a lynching.

When union men called a fellow worker from the factory and beat him almost to death, that was a lynching.

WHENEVER A GROUP of men kill or punish another without process of law, it is a lynching.

And when white men take the law into their own hands and seize and kill or punish a Negro, that is a lynching.

No court can make a distinction in such cases unless politics or prejudice or fear makes it willing to violate reason and stultify itself.

That is the chief problem of Legislators who would make a new law to punish lynchers. Federal lawmakers can't find a way to punish lynchers in one section while excusing them in another.

Haitians Condemn Lynching, Urge All Minorities to Unite

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md. Sat. 10-19-46

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti—A ringing condemnation of lynching, and a call to black people throughout the world to unite and "assault the citadel of imperialism and fascism," featured an article in the Haiti-Journal here on Sept. 25 by Rene Depestre and Laurore St.-Juste, militant anti-fascists.

The article said, "We join the militants against fascism with Paul Robeson . . . We are sure the colored people of Africa, Jamaica, Martinique, Guadeloupe, and all of the West Indies, as well as the entire world, oppose the atrocity of lynching.

"In a spirit of independence and fraternity, colored people of the world must assault the citadels of imperialism and fascism until they disappear from the surface of the globe . . . We Haitians are attempting to liberate ourselves from a regime of slavery, and want human dignity restored to all oppressed men."

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General

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Truman Is Warned to Act On Lynching Or 'Negroes Will'

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

Tues. 9-24-46

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Washington, Sept. 23 (AP)—A National Conference on Lynching mapped a program today aimed at curbing mob violence and sent a delegation which told President Truman that if the Government doesn't do something about the matter "the Negroes will."

Paul Robeson, Negro singer who was a sponsor of the conference, was in the group calling on the President and in telling reporters afterward of the meeting said Truman had objected to parts of the proposed program.

Robeson said he read a message to Truman asking him to issue "a formal public statement expressing your views on lynching, and recommending a definite legislative and educational program to end the disgrace of mob violence."

The President, Robeson said, indicated political matters made it difficult to issue a statement of his views at this time.

Robeson said that as to possible federal legislation to curb lynching the President expressed the view that passage is a political matter in which timing is important.

The President took exception, Robeson said, to a suggestion by the delegation that it "seemed inept for the United States to take the lead in the Nuernberg trials and fall so far behind in respect to justice to Negroes in this country."

The presidential view, Robeson said, was that Americans should not tie domestic matters to the international situation.

The organization also sent delegations to Attorney General Clark and to the Republican and Democratic National Committees.

Lynchers Are Murderers

News-Courier

From the 11 offering for governor The News and Courier would gladly hear a pledge that if elected they would insist upon the punishment of members of mobs who lynch even as they would try to execute the laws and make death the punishment of all murderers. Lynchers are murderers.

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

WHITE HOUSE CONFEREES—President Truman, at a White House conference with church, labor, and civic leaders, September 19 denounced the present wave of terror and promised to do all in his power to stop mob violence and injustice and to speak out against it. The delegates are members of the National Emergency Committee Against Mob Violence, recently formed at the invitation of Walter White, executive secretary, NAACP, representing 47 organizations. 9-28-46

Reading from left to right: Leslie Perry, administrative assistant, NAACP; Boris Shiskin AFL; Frederick E. Reissig, federal council of churches of Christ in America; President Truman; Walter White, executive secretary, NAACP; James Carey, secretary, CIO, and Dr. Channing H. Tobias, director, Phelps-Stokes foundation (NAACP photo). 9-25-46

Violence May Bring U.S. Lynch Law

Phila. Pa. 8-24-46

Saturday Evening Post

IF a Federal antilynching bill has a better prospect in the next Congress than such bills have ever had before, the credit should go to the rope-happy element in Georgia and elsewhere, and to demagogues like Talmadge and Bilbo, who get the job by whipping up the low, sadistic brute which is in all of us, and making it a virtue. On constitutional grounds, Congress has so far refused to invade the states and interfere with their local policing problems. But we are confronted with a situation in which certain states seem unable to give all classes of American citizens the "equal protection of the laws" guaranteed in the Fourteenth Amendment. Demagogues wage successful political campaigns by urging the disfranchisement of Negroes in defiance of the clear provisions of the Constitution.

In such circumstances it will not be surprising if Congress and the American people revise their views on the necessity for Federal legislation to protect all our citizens in circumstances where local officials are either powerless or viciously compliant with the will of mobs. Talmadge's promise that when elected he would assign to every sheriff an assistant to "take care of nigger trouble" gives a rough idea of what support a public official zealous to uphold the law would receive in Georgia. After the lynching of four negroes in Monroe County, Georgia, the state's Director of Public Safety declared that Federal intervention is necessary to protect Negroes in their rights. He says a Federal statute is needed.

Millions of Americans shrink from the idea that Federal marshals should invade the states to perform what ought to be the duties of local enforcement officers. But that reluctance has certainly diminished in recent weeks. People are saying that if the FBI can pursue an automobile thief from state to state, that agency certainly should have the power to go into a county which has proved impotent to protect citizens in the rights guaranteed them under the Federal Constitution and take measures to give that protection. There are risks even in this, but we know there are law-abiding men and women in places like Monroe County, Georgia, who would breathe a sigh of relief if they could see the lynchers among them high-tailing it down the street with the G-men at their heels. But under present conditions "the best people" were intimidated by the mob. Mon 8-24-1946

A Federal antilynching law still seems to us the death knell of the Federal system, and we have important doubts as to both its legal wisdom and its practical consequences. Nevertheless, we can certainly envisage the possibility that the Federal system will be slain in its own house by local demagogues who assume that State rights include denial to groups of American citizens of rights and protections intended to apply to all citizens in every state. If that conviction reaches the point where a Federal antilynching law becomes inevitable despite any effort to filibuster in the Senate, the blame will not rest on the Northern radicals or agitators. The blame will rest on the Talmadges, Bilbos and their Ku Klux Klan followers, as well as on the mobsters who hide behind State rights as a front. If the states cannot protect their own citizens from mob rule, the Federal Government will have to try.

Gulf Port, Miss. Herald
October 17, 1946

What Is Lynching?

Recently a committee called upon President Truman to demand that he do something about lynching. One of the group even made threats.

Members of the committee seemed to believe that lynching could be prevented by federal law.

Virtually all Americans deplore and condemn lynching, but many do not know what it is.

There are many who think it means the killing of a colored man by a group of white men. That is lynching, but it is not the definition of lynching. In no dictionary or reference book or law book will you find it so defined.

Lynching is killing or punishing without due process of law, usually by a mob or self-organized group. (Note the word "usually." Apparently a lynching can be done by one man.)

A lynching mob is said to "take the law into its own hands," as a wronged husband does when he kills a man who "violated his home."

* * *

When people are accused of "taking the law into their own hands," and urged to "let the law take its course," the assumption is that properly constituted authorities would take similar action, but in a manner prescribed by law.

Lynching was common in pioneer days in settlements where courts had not yet been established. Men were lynched for murder, rape and horse stealing—for a man was helpless without his horse. Vigilantes provided the only justice and security. Though a mob, they represented the will of the people.

* * *

Lynching is now the negation of law and order. It destroys the chief foundation stone of civilization, which is justice under law.

Preventing lynching by federal law would be as difficult as preventing any other kind of murder.

Class or group legislation—that is, a law to hurt or benefit one group without affecting others—would be un-constitutional. The Supreme Court would quickly declare it so. If the law fails to apply to all persons alike, as in Nazi Germany and in Russia, there can be no democracy.

* * *

When New York longshoremen seized and murdered a minor official whose policies they disliked, that was a lynching.

When union men called a fellow worker from the factory and beat him almost to death, that was a lynching.

Whenever a group of men kill or punish another without process of law, it is a lynching.

And when white men take the law into their own hands and seize and kill or punish a Negro, that is a lynching.

No court can make a distinction in such cases unless politics or prejudice or fear makes it willing to violate reason and stultify itself.

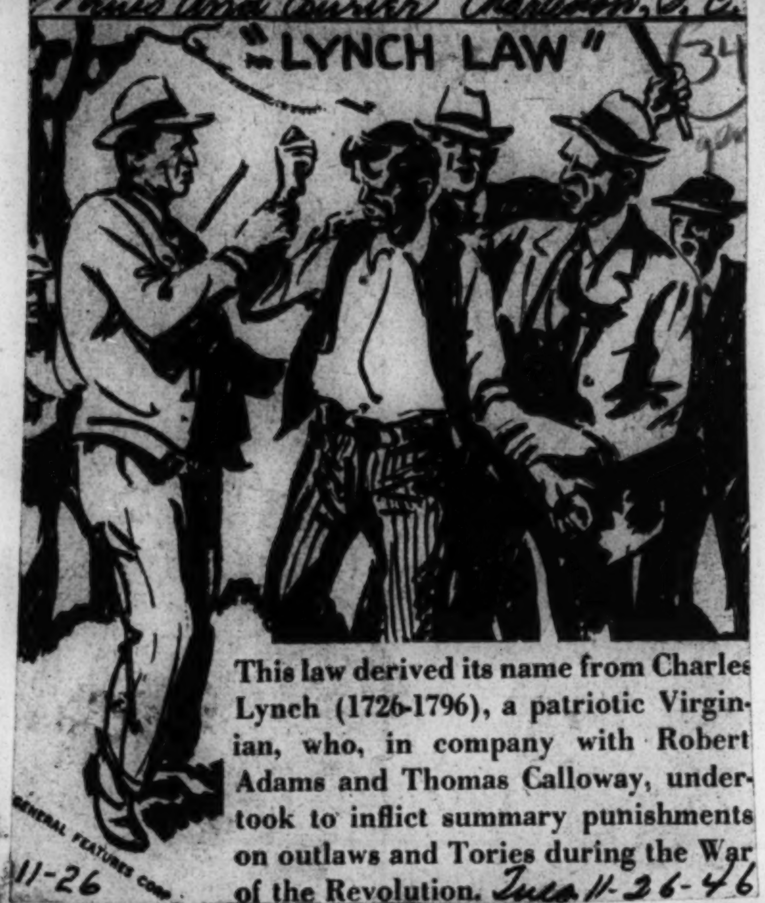
That is the chief problem of legislators who would make a new law to punish lynchers. Federal lawmakers can't find a way to punish lynchers in one section while excusing them in another.

Why We Say

By STAN J. COLLINS & L. J. SLAWSON

News And Courier Charleston, S.C.

34



This law derived its name from Charles Lynch (1726-1796), a patriotic Virginian, who, in company with Robert Adams and Thomas Calloway, undertook to inflict summary punishments on outlaws and Tories during the War of the Revolution. Tues 11-26-46

11-26

NMU Votes $500 to Aid Fight on Lynch Terror

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Sat. 11-9-46

34

Contributions totalling $5,000 were voted yesterday to four organizations by the National Council of the National Maritime Union to help implement the union's vigorous fight against lynch terror in the South.

The Council also passed another resolution condemning the "pro-Franco policies" of the State Department and calling for the overthrow of the Franco dictatorship.

Of the $5,000, the National Negro Congress was voted $2,500; Southern Negro Youth Congress, $1,000; Southern Conference for Human Welfare, $1,000; Crusade to End Lynching, $500.

Asserting that "continued organization of the American people is the only guarantee that fascist terror in the South will be brought to an end," a report adopted by the Council declared:

"Our union was one of the many organizations that spoke out in horror against the recent lynchings in the South. Despite the demands of the American people, government authorities have not yet apprehended the lynchers."

The resolution on Spain voiced support for the position taken by General Secretary Trygve Lie at the United Nations Assembly and called for "immediate severance of all economic and diplomatic relations with Spain."

Outlining concrete steps to be taken through the CIO on a local, state and national basis, the resolution recommended mass demonstrations and picket lines against Franco consulates and Spanish ships; delegations to Washington to protest State Department conciliatory policies towards Franco; delegations to the United Nations Assembly; and a deluge of resolutions, telegrams, letters, postcards and petitions to the State Department and the United Nations.

"We seamen," the resolution continued, "have given in full measure to the struggle against fascism. Over 200 of our best—Lincoln Brigadiers—now lie in unmarked graves in the Spanish earth, while thousands of seamen gave their lives in the last war against fascism.

"We demand that our dead be avenged!

"We call upon our union brothers, upon all maritime workers, upon the American people, to rise and struggle against the fascist dictatorship in Spain, and the reactionary forces in America that helped that dictatorship into power."

THE POLICE ARE SILENT, BUT—

The Nation Is Aroused

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Mon.

If President Truman, Attorney General Tom Clark, and the FBI have forgotten about the lynch bosses of Walton County Georgia, there are still many people in America who are demanding their arrest and prosecution:

HOUSTON, Texas.—Five hundred Negro and white citizens met at the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church here, and called for the outlawing of the Ku Klux Klan, by a Presidential order.

8/19/46 Journal

Sponsored by the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Texas Civil Rights Congress, the meeting also signed petitions demanding justice in the Columbia, Tenn. trial, and adopted resolutions calling for an anti-lynch law. [illegible]

DETROIT, The executive board of CIO United Auto Workers unanimously approved a resolution introduced by vice-president Richard T. Leonard urging all local unions **"to participate in strength in the memorial march to be held in the City of Detroit on Sunday, Aug. 18, to protest the mass murders in the State of Georgia."** 8/19/46

"Although the Ku Klux Klan and other subversive organizations and native fascists have been engaging in these acts, as did the Brown Shirts in pre-Hitler Germany, prime responsibility rest upon those employers who finance and use them to prevent the self-organization of the workers in the South and to divide and weaken the unions in the North."

COLUMBUS, Ohio.—The Committee for Democratic Practices sponsored a mass meeting Saturday, to denounce the Georgia lynchings, and to demand action from President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark.

The meeting was held in the Monroe Ave. Christian Church which is now engaged in a restrictive covenant fight involving the right of its minister, the Rev. L. L. Dickerson, to occupy the parsonage.

MINNEAPOLIS.—The North Side branch of the Communist Party, held an open air rally Aug. 7 to protest the Georgia lynchings.

Four Negro veterans from the audience came to the platform to voice their experiences in the Army and to speak out for Negro and white unity for the prevention of more such murders. 8/19/46

A 97-year-old woman expressed her thanks to the Communist Party for its fight for the Negro people. She herself had seen nine lynchings in South Carolina and had "seen **the buzzards eat off the flesh."**

Resentment against recent lynchings has speeded the response to the campaign of the National Negro Congress for five million signatures asking the United Nations to intervene and aid the oppressed Negro people in the United States, said Revels Cayton, Congress secretary, last night.

Petition drives are getting a fast start in major centers throughout the nation, Cayton reported.

In New York City the women's auxiliary of the National Maritime Union is one of the leading groups in the signature campaign. Thousands of seamen and their wives have already signed.

REVEAL TWO MORE LYNCHINGS IN ANTI-NEGRO TERROR REIGN

The Plaindealer Kansas City, Kansas

Fri. 8-23-46

(By the Associated Negro Press)

Two more lynchings were revealed this week as the anti-Negro reign of terror continued to grow. One was J. C. Farmer, 20-year-old World War II veteran of Wilson, N. C., who came back determined to resist local fascists after fighting abroad against Hitlerism, and the other was John C. Jones, 28-year-old resident of Minden, La., who was freed after a white woman refused to press charges that he had annoyed her.

This violence comes on the heels of the Athens, Ala., riots, the quadruple lynchings in Walton county, Ga., and two additional murders nearby; the blinding of Issac Woodard at or near Aiken, S. C.; a lynching in Mississippi and the riots in Columbia, Tenn. Revival of the Ku Klux Klan and reelection of the white supremacists such as Bilbo and Talmadge are also involved.

Observers tie up the wave of anti-Negro violence with the southern organizing drive by both AFL and CIO unions. The klan, originally aimed at Negroes, Jews and Catholics, now operate against organized labor, particularly the CIO on the ground that it is "a buch of communists." Klan lynching threats have been made against white union organizers.

Since any genuine union drive must include both Negro and white workers, labor leaders point out that interracial trouble hampers organizing efforts by creating additional friction between white and colored workers. The klan is considered a "front" for anti-labor forces.

Other factors include the supreme court white primary decision, the illegality of jim crow interstate bus travel, wartime gains made by Negroes and the militancy of returned veterans. All are used by klansmen to inflame whites.

Punishing Lynchers

Times-Dispatch

[Tampa Tribune]

IN Louisiana a Federal grand jury has indicted six persons in connection with the lynching of a Negro war veteran and the mob beating of another. Among those indicted are the chief of police and two deputy sheriffs of Minden, where the lynching occurred. The accused men are charged with depriving the victims of their constitutional rights by "causing them to be released and handed over to a mob, who then inflicted a beating upon both," one dying as a result of the beating.

It is pleasing to note one instance wherein something is done about a lynching. It is an indelible stain on Florida's good name that in none of the recent lynchings in this State has any person been identified, arrested or indicted.

Richmond

Mon. 10-28-46

Miss. Lynching Gives Lie to Delegate's Statement

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-10-46

Repudiation came quickly and dramatically for Mrs. E. B. Miller, of Yazoo City, Miss., National Association of Colored Women delegate who objected to a mass protest against lynching, during an open meeting of the group at Metropolitan Church Monday.

She had hardly finished her speech before reports came of a lynching in her home State.

MRS. L. T. MILLER

MRS. ALMA PERCY

Mrs. Miller, wife of a leading physician of Yazoo City, seized the mike while the delegates were discussing a pilgrimage to the White House to demonstrate against the Georgia lynching, and told them: "I think it is undignified to picket; just leave us alone in the South and we will solve our own problems."

"Fully Capable"

She continued, "We are not afraid, and we are doing everything possible to better conditions. We are fully capable of handling our situations. Sentiment is changing and if outsiders will let us alone, we will work things out wonderfully."

She said that the Mississippi State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs had worked for 20 years trying to establish a delinquent home for colored youths and recently the State appropriated $300,000 for such an institution.

They now have one of the most modern in the country, she added.

The recent lynching referred to is that of Leon McTatie, 35, who was accused of stealing a saddle. His body was found in a bayou in Sunflower County.

On the same day, (Tuesday), Deputy Sheriff John Lewis, was held on a charge of murder in the shooting of Buddy Wolf, father of 10 children at Hattiesburg, Miss.

Four More Victims of Dixie Lynchers

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Mobs in Carolinas, Louisiana and Georgia Add to 1946 Toll

Sat. 8-24-46

34a Gen.

WASHINGTON

Mobs in three more States—the Carolinas and Louisiana—followed Georgia's lead last week in spreading Fascist terror in the Southland, leaving in their wake four more bullet-riddled victims, whose names can be added to the Nation's disgraceful 1946 lynching toll.

The latest victims bring the unofficial total for this year to 12, distributed as follows: Georgia, 6; Mississippi, 2; Tennessee, 2; South Carolina, 1; and North Carolina, 1.

The latest victims of mobs were:

JAMES WALKER JR., 33, World War II veteran, shot down by a mob armed with automatic weapons while seated on his parents' porch at Elko, S.C.

J. C. FARMER, 20, World War II veteran, hunted down and shot to death while his mother looked on, on a farm near Wilson, N.C.

JOHN C. JONES, 28, flogged to death after his release from the Minden, La., jail when a white woman refused to press charges that he had anoyed her.

JOHN J. GILBERT, 34, chalk mill worker and union organizer, bullet-riddled body was found in a roadside gutter less than 100 yards from his home in Gordon, Ga.

34a Gen.

The viciousness of the hate turning to violence, which is spreading throughout the South was shown in the case of James Walker, into whose body three rounds of bullets from automatic weapons were pumped.

Seated on Porch

An eyewitness said Walker was sitting on a bannister rail of the front porch chatting to relatives he had just come from Charleston to visit, when a bullet from an automatic rifle spun him around.

As he fell, face forward, down the rickety steps, the harsh voice of a white man 150 feet away ordered, "Git up from there and come to me, you black ——. I'll teach you to run from me."

Another bullet ripped into the unconscious victim's left shoulder. Then came a shower of bullets from several automatic weapons fired in unison. Some struck the victim, others plowed into the flimsy weatherboarding on the front porch, and some buried themselves in the ground about the dying man in angry whines.

Lyncher Drives Away

Still standing in his tracks was the white man, one William (Bill) Craig, who had fired the first shot and did the talking. After casually examining the still hot rifle he held in his hands, he walked to the nearby pickup truck which had brought him and his fellow lynchers to the Walker home.

The Afro-American

After John H. McCray, editor of the Lighthouse and Informer, with other leaders had demanded that Gov. Ransome J. Williams act in the matter, Sheriff Jeff Black of Barnwell County issued the first statement in the lynching.

He told newsmen that Craig had confessed the killing and had been released under a $2,000 bond. Black's version was that Walker had been shot but once, and that Craig had fired in self-defense.

He contended that the shooting occurred near Craig's filling station a mile northwest of the Walker residence. Walker, the sheriff said, had earlier engaged in an argument with some white men at the station and threatened to return with a gun.

Craig shot Walker, when the latter approached with a shotgun, the sheriff told reporters. But the sheriff's version failed to explain how Walker was shot in the back. It was further revealed that the Walkers had no weapons at their house.

Baltimore, Md.

Eyewitneses revealed how Walker's father had been threatened by Sheriff Black when he arrived to "investigate" the lynching.

The father, they said, just arriving from Aiken, S.C., rushed up and asked tearfully, "Who killed my boy? Tell me please, who killed my boy?"

Sat.

The sheriff drew out his blackjack in a threatening manner and warned bystanders, "Get 'im in the house and he'd better shet up or I'll bust his head open."

Officers Lead Mob

The mob which snuffed out the life of J. C. Farmer at Wilson, N.C., was led, witnesses said, by supposedly liquor control officers. The killing occurred after a fracas between the youth and a constable.

8-24-46

The trouble began when Farmer, with two friends, was engaged in play while awaiting a bus at a small stop near Wilson. Constable Bisetto, driving by, ordered Farmer into his car.

When the youth replied that he had done nothing, the officer struck him with a blackjack and drew his gun. A scuffle ensued in which Farmer, a veteran, seized the gun and shot Bizetta through the hand.

Farmer then escaped. Tracked down by a mob of between 20 and 25 men riding in seven or eight cars, they ambushed him near his home, killing him while his mother looked on.

No Inquest Held

When she reached the dying youth's side and exclaimed "you've killed him," one of the lynchers replied, "He ought to be killed. I'd kill him myself." No inquest was held.

The lynching of John C. Jones came to light in Minden, La., after it had been hushed up for almost a week. His body was covered with multiple bruises and abrasions believed to have been inflicted with a thick, nail-studded strap.

Jones had been released from the Minden, La., jail on Thursday, August 8, when a white woman refused to press charges that he had annoyed her. He disappeared shortly afterward. His death was fixed by Coroner Thomas Richardson, who termed it a lynching, at some time around 10 p.m. the night of his release.

The body was found on August 9, but nothing was made public until Thursday, August 15, when a coroner's jury returned the verdict that Jones had died from a lashing at the hands of "a person or persons unknown."

Body Found on Dam

Jones's body was found on the dam of a small private lake two miles south of Minden.

7411

7 White Men Held In Deaths Of 2 Negroes

Courier Journal
Louisville Ky

F.B.I. Helps Search For Killers of 4 Others

By the Associated Press.

Seven white men, one a deputy sheriff, were held yesterday for the deaths of two Mississippi Negroes while federal agents, spurred on by President Truman, aided in the search for killers who shot to death four Georgia Negroes.

34 Wed 7-31-46

At Lexington, Miss., Sheriff Walter L. Murtagh said three of six men held for a justice-of-peace hearing into the death of Leon McTatie had admitted whipping McTatie, a 35-year-old Negro farm worker.

gen

Body Found In Bayou.

The body of McTatie, who had been accused of stealing three saddles from one of the six men, was found floating in a bayou. The six men were charged with murder, the sheriff said, and the justice-of-peace hearing was to decide whether they will be bound over to the grand jury.

At Hattiesburg, Miss., Mayor J. D. Arrington of Collins announced Deputy Sheriff John Lewis was in jail awaiting a preliminary hearing today on a charge of murdering Buddy Wolf, 37-year-old Negro of 10 children. Mayor Arrington said a murder warrant was issued on an affidavit of Wolf's widow. The Mayor quoted Lewis as claiming self-defense.

Truman Horrified.

In Washington, meanwhile, President Truman was quoted by Attorney General Tom Clark as expressing "horror" at the massacre by an armed band of two young Negro farm hands, one a veteran, and their wives by a roadside near Monroe, Ga.

The President directed the Justice Department, which already has assigned F.B.I. agents to the case, to push its probe "with all its resources."

The federal inquiry has two aims: Wed. 7-31-46

1. To see whether the mob members can be arrested and prosecuted under any federal statute.

2. To assist Georgia authorities in identifying the members of the mob and prosecuting them under State laws.

History of lynching

Tribune Los Angeles Calif. 34 ①

In the midst of staff reorganization the editors of the TRIBUNE had no time to give to editorial considerations this week and in lieu of their regular offering, present the following Research Report on the history of lynching in the United States made by the distinguished Encyclopaedia Britannica. The information is taken for the Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences, edited by E. R. A. Seligman and Alvin Johnson, published in New York by the Macmillian co.

The following information is taken from the **Encyclopaedia of the Social Science**, edited by E. R. A. Seligman and Alvin Johnson, published in New York by the Macmillan Company, 1933. Sat. 10-5-46

"Discussions of lynching often begin with a description of frontier methods of administering justice in America: extralegal proceeding among the settlers in dealing with horse thieves, wife beaters, Indian scalpers, harborers of runaway slaves and occasionally public officials accused of an abusive exercise of power; the activities in the third quarter of the 18th century of self-constituted standing groups, such as the Regulators in the Carolinas, the Regulars in New York and the Rangers in Pennsylvania, formed to visit speedy punishment upon robbers, brigands and loyalists; and the more systematic work in the middle decades of the 19th century of vigilance committee of the west in administering justice against murders, stock thieves, gamblers and 'suspicious characters' in regions where the spread and increase of population kept ahead of the establishment of civil institutions.

"It is only in a limited sense that the later lynchings can be said to be an outgrowth of these frontier practises. Although the latter were doubtless partially responsible for establishing American habits of lawless dealing with certain types of offenders, nevertheless they lacked some of the most significant features of the later lynchings. The earlier attempts to mete out justice extralegally were generally to be found only in regions where the ordinary tribunals were absent or inadequate. They proceeded according to a form of trial of their own, and they inflicted death penalty only for the graver offenses. Contemporary lynching, on the other hand, is carried on in settled regions where the courts of law are in full operation. There is no process for establishing the guilt of the accused; the punishment is death, often accompained by torture and other sadistic acts, applied in many instances to persons charged with offenses which according to the ordinary standards of civilization are of a minor character. This extreme form of mob violence is practiced in all parts of the United States, but predominantly in the southern and southern border states and most frequently against Negroes.

"The racial and sectional aspect of lynching appeared first during the two or three decades immediately preceding the Civil War. The spread of the frontier influence into the older sections and the growing bitterness of the slavery controversy combined to make social conditions at the time especially turbulent. In the South the methods of mob law were applied with increasing frequency and severity against persons charged with any sort of tampering with slavery. There were numerous instances of violent treatment—by flogging, tarring and feathering and occasionally hanging—of abolitionist agitators and persons accused of aiding runaway slaves or otherwise aligning themselves with the anti-slavery cause. After the Civil War southern Negroes became the chief objects of these extra-legal proceedings. The original Ku Klux Klan played the chief role in 'disciplining' former slaves both by suppressing their night maraudings and by frightening them out of the exercise of legal rights. To some extent the negligence or favoritism of the carpetbag governments in dealing with offenses by Negroes supplied the provocation for such 'self-defense' on the part of the whites, a habit which quickly developed into the practice of lynching.

"There are no officials statistics of lynchings but the Chicago Tribune from 1882 through 1917 and more recently the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute and the the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People have presented annual summaries. These summaries do not agree in every numerical detail; with the lack of a precise definition of lynching there may be uncertainty as to whether a particular episode in a case of mob slaying, in alleged behalf of the community, a case of ordinary murder or manslaughter in which several persons take part. All the summaries, however, exclude the instances of deaths in riots (even race riots) and 'gang' slayings; and since in the great majority of cases there is no difference of opinion as to the presence or absence of the characteristic features of a lynching, the several summaries are in approximate agreement.

"The summaries show the total number of lynchings from the early 1880's through 1930 to be considerably over 400. According to a summary revised to 1932 by the Negro Year Book issued by the Tuskegee Institute 4589 persons were lynched between 1882 and 1931, 3307 of them Negroes and 1282 whites. Only the six New England states have been free from lynchings during this period. There has been a fairly steady decrease in the annual number of lynchings throughout the country since the beginning of the 20th century, but the sectional and racial character of the lynchings has become pronounced. For the country as a whole the average annal of persons lynched has fallen from 154.1 for the decade of 1890-99 to 31.2 for the decade of 1920-9, so that the number of lynchings in the latter decade is slightly over one fifth the number for the earlier decade. Yet the southern proportion of the total number of lynchings has risen from 87 per cent in the decade of 1890-99 to 95-5 per cent for 1920-29; and the proportion of Negroes in the total number of persons lynched has risen from slightly over 73 per cent in the earlier decade to approximately 90 per cent in the latter decade.

History of lynching

Tribune ②

Eds Note: Last week the TRIBUNE began publication of "The History of Lynching in the United States," a special research project done for the TRIBUNE by the Library Research Service of the Encyclopaedia 'Britannica.' It is continued and will be completed in the issue of Oct. 19.

Los Angeles Calif

It is interesting to note further that the largest number of lynchings in the South have not occurred in the regions where the percentage of Negroes in the total population is highest, but in those sections where the Negroes number less than 25 per cent of the inhabitants. To explain this fact it is said that in the 'black belt' regions the large land owners are to a greater degree dependent upon Negroes as tenants and laborers, while in the more sparsely settled regions, where the proportion of Negroes is lower, the economic competition between the poor white and Negro farmers is keener and the racial hostility between them correspondingly stronger. Sat 10-12-46

"A typical lynching crowd appears to be made up of younger men from the relatively poorer and uneducated families. In some instances, however, educated men of high economic and social leadning participate, and frequently the lynching is approved or at least condoned by large sections of the better elements of the community. This tolerance appears in many cases to be due to a fear of the dangers—physical, economic, social—that would be incurred to any out spoken condemation of a practice which is approved by a substantial proportion of the community.

"The general cause of lynching are to be found in the frontier heritage of Americans and their pervasive disposition to hold formal law of little account when it runs counter or popular desires and prejudices, as well as in the economic and social situations already noted. The common justification offered in the South for the lynching of Negroes is that prompt, conspicicuous punishment freed from the delays and technicalities of formal legal proceddings is necessary in order to protect white women from sex assults by Negroes. This contention which is not given much weight outside the South and is coming to be discredited by fair minded southerners, has no statistical substantiation. Concerning the total number of persons lynched from 1889 through 1930 homicide stands first among the offenses charged, covering about a third of the cases; rape stands second, at about one seventh; rape and attempted rape together stand at less than one fourth. In an overwhelming majority of the instances of Negroes lynched the charge is some offense against whites. The graver offenses--murder, rape, arson, assault—predominate but in many cases the charges are of a strinkingly trivial sort, such as slapping a white child, using offensive or boastful language, suing or testifying against a white, expressing sympathy for a lynched Negro, seeking employment in a restaurant or accepting appointment to a postmastership. The lynchings springing part from an unreasoning fear that the Negro ,differing as he does from the whites in certain marked bodily characteristics, is more brutish and that his brutishness is likely to be manifested with peculiar unrestraint against members of a race from which he feels he has suffered indignities. Another cause of lynching is to be found in the quick and passionate resentment among large sections of the southern whites against any gesture of equality on the part of the Negro. These whites hold that their economic and social superiority is insecure unless the Negro is forced to 'keep his place.' They redetermined that he shall remain a servant instead of a competitor. Thus

southern lynchings are manifestations of the same sort of attitude that had led to the other discriminatory measures, legal and extra-legal, against the Negro: suffrage disfranchisement, residential segregation, discrimination in the provision of educational facilities and in the process of trials before the courts. In addition they are manifestations of a mob psychology oft-

en distinctly sadistic in character."

To be continued next week

History of lynching

Tribune ③

Eds Note: 2 week's ago the TRIBUNE began publication of "The History of Lynching in the United States," a special research project done for the TRIBUNE by the Library Research Service of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. It is completed here.

Los Angeles, Calif. 34

The following material is taken from the **Negro Year Book**, 1937-1938, edited by Monroe N. Work, published by the Negro Year Book Publishing co, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. Sat. 10-19-46

'Phillips, in his 'American Negro Slavery' pages 458-563 and 511-572, gives extended information about rape and the lynching of Negroes in the days of slavery. He points out that in Virginia from 1780 to 1864 there were 73 slaves convicted for rape, and 32 convicted for attempted rape. In Baldwin County, Georgia, in 1812, a Negro was convicted of rape and sentenced to be hanged. Near Gallatin, Mississippi, in 1843, two slaves were lynched for rape and murder.

"According to the files of the Liberator, three slaves and one free Negro were legally executed for rape and two slaves legally executed for attempted rape. Near Mobile, Alabama, in May 1835, two Negroes were burned to death for the murder of two children. On April 28, [illegible], a Negro was burned to death at St. Louis for killing a deputy sheriff. From 1850 to 1860, according to the records of the Liberator, there appears to have been more of a tendency for the people to take the law in their own hands. Out of 46 Negroes put to death for the murder of owners and overseers, 20 were legally executed and 26 were summarily executed. Nine of these were burned at the stake. For the crime of rape upon white women, three Negroes were legally executed, and four were burned at the stake.

"It is to be noted that lynching as an institution developed, apart from slavery, as a frontier tribunal, especially in connection with the establishing of law and order in the goal mining camps of California and other parts of the Far West. . .

Lynchings, 1882,-1936

Lynching, Whites and Negroes, 1882 to 1936.

Year	W	N	Total
1882	64	49	113
1883	77	53	130
1884	160	51	211
1885	110	74	184
1886	64	74	138
1887	50	70	120
1888	68	69	137
1889	76	94	170
1890	11	85	96
1891	71	113	184
1892	69	162	231
1893	34	117	151
1894	58	134	192
1895	66	113	179
1896	45	78	123
1897	35	123	[illegible]
1898	19	101	[illegible]
1899	21	85	[illegible]
1900	9	106	115
1901	25	105	130
1902	7	85	92

Mob Violence in Dixie

The Afro-American

Is Compared to Nazism

Baltimore, Md.

Americans Urged to Rise Up and Stamp Out Evils of Fascist Mob Violence

Sat. 10-19-46

34

gen.

NEW YORK—The discrimination script printed below was written by Alfred D. Geto for the Madison Square Garden Rally sponsored on Sept. 12 by the independent Citizens' Committee of the Arms, Sciences and Professions.

Presented at the same time former Secretary of Comemrce Henry A. Wallace delivered his epoch-making speech on America's foreign policy, the script likens mob violence in Dixie to naziism. The entire script follows.

CHORUS

Citizens! Americans!
Ended is the war
But the tears flow on,
The tears flow on.
Come to the valleys and mountains of America,
come to the small-town,
the big-town
come to the villages,
come South or North,
and you will find the tears flow on,
the tears flow on.
Murder, citizens!
Murder, MURDER!
The trumpets of victory die,
and the cry of victims is heard throughout the land,
and the cry of mothers is heard
—and the cry for justice!
And the victims pile high,
and the mothers weep,
and the cry for justice falls on the stone walls
of the capitol city,
for there is justice imprisoned
and deaf little men play the part of the people,
mock the word, mock the precious word AMERICA!
And the tears flow on, citizens,
the tears flow on!

NARRATOR

The tears flow on in Tennessee, citizens,
where terror rode in a white hood
on a white horse
whose mouth was bloody,
rode in the streets of America,
smashing American homes,
stampeding American citizens,
destroying, destroying.

CHORUS

(Proudly, in Loud Reply)

But that was answered,
the mob was challenged,
with guns and sticks and stones,
with flesh and defiance, with blood and bones!

SINGLE VOICE OF NEGRO MOTHER

(Cries Out in Despair)

But we paid, citizens,
we paid!

CHORUS

Yes, we paid!
The tears flow on in Tennessee,
tears for two Americans
who fell
not in the Battle of the Bulge,
or San Lo
or Okinawa
But in Tennessee, citizens!

(With a Cry in the Voices)

IN TENNESSEE!

(Softly)

That's America.

NARRATOR

William Gordon and James Johnson,
two Negro American citizens
were shot to death
in jail
in Tennessee.

CHORUS

Shot to death in jail
in Tennessee.

NARRATOR

Where are the killers?

CHORUS

WHERE ARE THE KILLERS?

NARRATOR

The killers are free.

CHORUS

And James and William
lie
in
graves, in Tennessee.
The tears flow on in Tennessee.

NARRATOR

One time, General George Washington,
his army bloody and defeated,
After the Battle of **Long Island**—
retreated.
That was seventeen hundred and seventy six
And in George Washington's army
there were white men and black,
all creeds and colors fell in that attack.

CHORUS

Now the tears flow on Long Island
For General Eisenhower's men.
Two soldiers came back from the fascist attack,
But they'll never come back again.

SINGLE NEGRO WOMAN

My boys looked so handsome in their uniforms—

CHORUS

American uniforms.

SINGLE NEGRO WOMAN

Like every mother in the land
With boys overseas,
my heart was heavy
Until they came safely back home.

CHORUS

But that isn't all,
No, that isn't all.
A policeman stood them against a wall. . .

MOTHER

I remember when I used to tuck them in bed. . .

CHORUS

The policeman brutally shot them dead!
He shot to death Mrs. Ferguson's boys!

NARRATOR

Where is the killer?

CHORUS

WHERE IS THE KILLER?

MOTHER

Where is the killer?

NARRATOR

The killer is free.

MOTHER

But my two sweet soldiers are in their graves!

CHORUS

Just like the boys in Tennessee.
Just like the boys in Tennessee!
Just like the boys in Tennessee.

(PAUSE. SUDDENLY RAUCOUS VOICE IS HEARD.)

RAUCOUS VOICE

Now I been hearin' 'bout this lynchin bee,
As Guv'nor elect from the Old Peach Tree,
On a platform of White Supremacy,
Where nobody votes unless they're white as me!
To hell, says I, with FEPC!

NARRATOR

In the soft light of the Georgia moon,
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Malcolm and
Mr. and Mrs. George Dorsey
were taken from an automobile
and were shot to death
by masked and unmasked men
in the soft light of the Georgia moon.

CHORUS

MOB VIOLENCE—con.

in Georgia.
The tears flow on.

NARRATOR

But in Washington, the words flow on,
like a dirty stream.
What happened, the people ask,
To our antilynching bill?
to our anti-poll tax bill?
to our FEPC?

CHORUS

To any and all of our laws
that protect us
from outrage?

NARRATOR

What has happened to the dignity of the American people?
Where are the killers of Roger Malcom and his wife?
Where are the killers of George Dorsey and his wife?

CHORUS

(Shouting in Unison)

THEY ARE FREE!
THEY ARE FREE!
THEY ARE FREE!
Just like the killer in Freeport, Long Island,
Just like the killers in Tennessee!

NEGRO SOLDIER

I served my time in the army—
and that's a jim-crow place.

CHORUS

It's a jim-crow place. You said it.

NEGRO SOLDIER

But I was done, and coming home.

CHORUS

Coming home, coming home. A free man.

NEGRO SOLDIER

In my uniform with the ruptured duck that meant, discharged from that jim-crow place.

CHORUS

Discharged—from that jim-crow place,
where he served his country
and he served his race.

NEGRO SOLDIER

I got on a bus in South Carolina.
Me and the driver had an argument,
hardly an argument, just a touch of an argument,
just a touch.
What passed between us didn't
amount to much.

CHORUS

Didn't amount to much.

NEGRO SOLDIER

But when we came into the city of Batesburg, South Carolina—

CHORUS

A shame forever!

NEGRO SOLDIER

That bus driver said to the police
I made a disturbance on his bus!
And for that, they gouged out my two eyes!

CHORUS

(In Great Anguish)

Gouged out his eyes!
Took away the light!
Robbed him of his sight!
This soldier, this American soldier,
this man still in his uniform!

NEGRO SOLDIER

(Crying in Great Wrath)

Where are they now, those men
who punched out my eyes
with billy-sticks?

CHORUS

They are free! They are free!

NEGRO SOLDIER

(Crying Out)

Just like the killers
in Monroe, Georgia,
in Freeport, Long Island.

CHORUS

(Hushed)

And just like the killers in Tennessee!

NARRATOR

(Very Softly)

This is America, 1946.
This is the all-out democracy,
That cries out against brutality in Calcutta,
Murder in Nanking,
Death in Indonesia,
Cruelty in Palestine.
That sent its sons and daughters to Europe to strike down the Fascists!

CHORUS

The winds of hate have blown the seeds
across the ocean.
From Detroit to California,
from everywhere came the ghastly tales,
Americans lynching Americans!

NARRATOR

Where is the voice of the President?
Where is the power of the House of Representatives?
Where is the dignity of the Senate?
Where are the people of this Democracy?
Have our dead sons and daughters taken our souls with them?

CHORUS

The people mourn
The people mourn
for the blood of their brothers.

NEGRO MOTHER

I have mourned and mourned,
and on a certain Tuesday in August
I read about
the late Corporal
John C. Jones,
who, like my murdered children,
fought the Nazis,
was lynched by a mob
at Minden, Louisiana.
And I saw the picture of his wife
and his baby,
mourning their husband and daddy.
But the killers are free.

CHORUS

(Low, but Angrily)

Just like the killers in Georgia,
Just like the killer in Long Island
And just like the killer in Tennessee!

NEGRO MOTHER

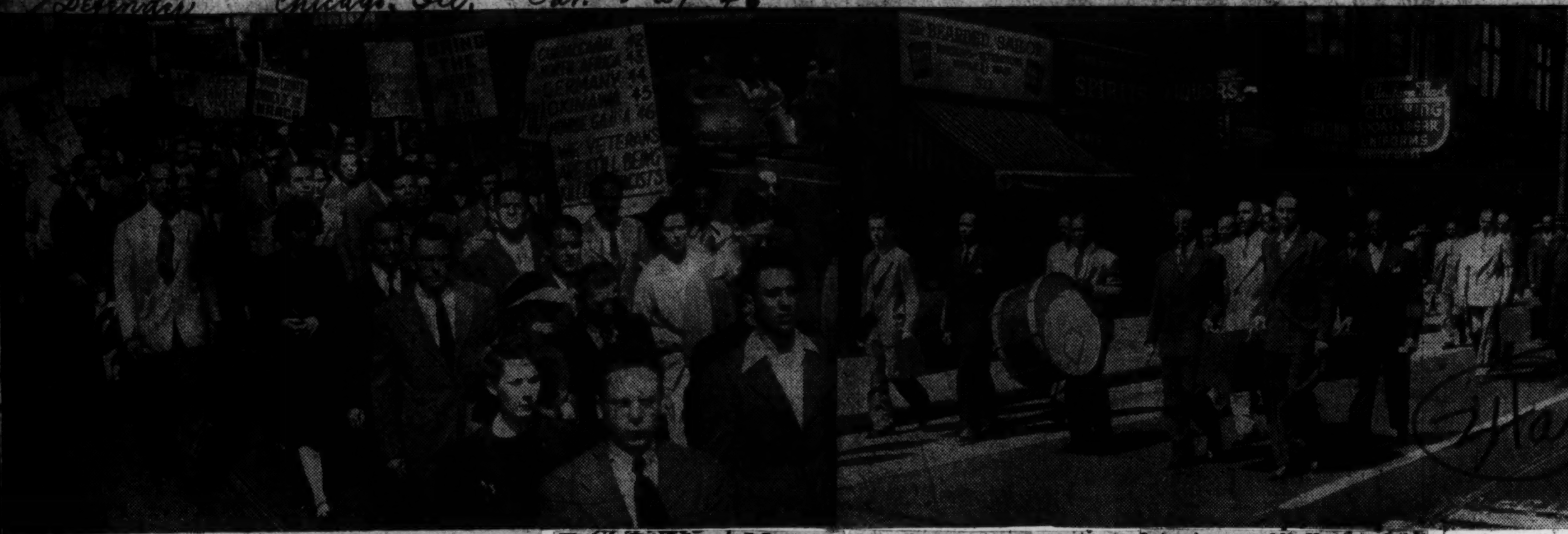
Mourning is not enough!
The fist of democracy must descend and crush
these native fascists
as surely as the fascists of Europe were crushed!

CHORUS

Yes!
The people must answer!
With the anger of the tears that flow,
With the hand that binds the mortal wounds,
With the love of fellowmen,
With steel hearts forged in the struggle against hate,
intolerance, ignorance, and prejudice,
the people must answer!
The last note of warning sounds,
The last chance has been given to hate,
The last lynching must be the last lynching!
Rise up, people, rise up in the halls of your President,
in the mansions of your Congress,
in the houses of your Governors,
in the streets of your cities,
Rise up, rise up!

'Silent March'—In Mourning And In Protest

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-24-46



Down San Francisco's main thoroughfare, Market st., recently marched a parade of grim faced, silent men and women, white and black. To the tempo of muffled drums, they marched to the Civic Center, where the silence was broken with speeches protesting the Georgia massacre of two Negro couples. Closeup at left shows placards and intent determination of crowd. At right are two of the four coffins carried to symbolize the victims.

Ga. Anti-Lynch Fund Passes $12,000 Mark

Defender Chicago, Ill. 34a

ATLANTA, Ga. — (ANP) — The drive for a $100,000 defense fund to fight racial hate and lynch violence in this state started by the citizens of Georgia recently hit the $12,000 mark last week. Sat. 8-24-46

The members of those joining the drive is mounting daily, Pres. C. L. Harper of the Atlanta branch of the NAACP said. The rapidity with which citizens throughout the state are backing up the drive shows that a great many Georgians do not like the recent outbreak of violence in the state, he said.

The defense committee for the fund is headed by Dr. W. H. Borders, pastor of Wheat Street Baptist church.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
Sept. 5, 1946

Negro Baptists Add $5,000 To Mob Rewards

34a

The National Baptist Convention (Negro) has voted to add $5,000 to rewards offered for arrest and conviction of the mob which lynched four Negroes last July near Monroe.

The Convention, in annual session, elected the Rev. Pius Barbour, of Chester, Pa., Editor of the National Baptist Voice, as its delegate to the World Baptist Alliance next year in Copenhagen.

At its opening session Tuesday, the Convention adopted resolutions calling for outlawing of the Ku Klux Klan, expulsion from the Senate of Mississippi's Theodore G. Bilbo and passage of a Federal anti-lynch law.

The Convention represents 4,000,000 Negro Baptists.

Reward Hiked To $12,500 As Interest Mounts

Daily World
Atlanta

Fear-Ridden Monroe Placed On Nation's Blacklist Of Evil

7-30-46

34a Ga. (Reward)

To date there have been no sensational developments in the investigation of the lynching of two Negro couples in Walton County, but there were indications Monday that the way had been cleared for federal jurisdiction. This means that the United States Department of Justice is now free to make a "complete investigation," track down the mobsters and bring them to trial for the mass slayings.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation stationed six men in Walton County Monday, with John Trost, special-agent-in-charge of the Atlanta FBI office, directing the investigation. Major W. E. Spence, director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and members of his staff are working in close cooperation with the FBI.

TO PROTECT HARRISON

The investigators continued to question J. Loy Harrison, Oconee County farmer, the only eye-witness to the lynchings, Monday, and a guard was stationed at his farm to protect him and his family.

In explaining that he did not expect an early break in the case, Major Spence said that solution of the case will take long and careful police work. "The mystery is being unraveled, and we intend to see this investigation through until the guilty persons are brought to justice," he added.

LACKS PROOF 7-30-46

The GBI head also stated that while he believes he knows who some of the mob is, he lacks sufficient proof to make an arrest. Major Spence also branded as "completely unfounded" reports that one man had been arrested. Likewise, he failed to deny or affirm reports that the leaders of the mob were men "imported" from outside of Walton or adjoining counties.

Governor Ellis Arnall again called on the investigators to redouble their efforts to ferret out the mob, stating that the Federal Government is rendering full cooperation in the search.

Tuesday 7-30-46

"Rewards now total $12,500 for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the gang that committed the mass murders and massacre. Civilization is incensed over this atrocity. The guilty parties must be brought to justice."

OTHER REWARDS

In addition to the $500 offered by the State for each member of the mob, which amounted to more than $10,000, other rewards offered by the Civil Rights Congress in New York, $1,000; the Southern Regional Council, a bi-racial organization, $50; and the American Civil Liberties Union, $1,000.

One arrest was made Saturday when Major Spence took in custody a ber hall employe who, he said, fitted the description given by Mr. Harrison of the leader of the mob. Later, however, Mr. Harrison failed to identify the suspect, saying that the leader of the gang was "20 pounds heavier."

URGES MARTIAL LAW 7-30-46

In Birmingham, Ala., the Southern Negro Youth Congress wrote United States Attorney General Tom Clark requesting that martial law be declared in Walton County and that a house-to-house search be conducted for the slayers. This organization also suggested that Mr. Harrison be arrested as an accomplice of the assassin's band.

The Maryland conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People asked President Truman to intervene, and the national office in New York sent telegrams to President Truman and Attorney General Clark requesting the President to "go on the radio and to authorize an immediate investigation into the lynching of these four citizens.

Eugene Talmadge returned to Georgia, Monday, and was quoted as saying he knows "such atrocities will be at a minimum. I am very sorry that a lynching did occur in the present governor's administration." Daily World

BY STETSON KENNEDY

(Editor's Note: The author is a young white Atlantan whose book "Southern Exposure" will be published by Doubleday in September.)

I had just emerged from the inner parlor of the Young Funeral Home in Monroe, Georgia. The smell of death was still strong in my nostrils; and I was ashamed to look into the faces of the Negroes who had come to see what the white lynch mob had done.

So I looked at the wall instead And I took this snapshot of what I saw. The bulletin board above announces the deaths of the two Negro couples who were shot down in cold blood. The placard below proclaims that the U. S. is ready to protect Negro balloting. 7-30-46

As I looked at these two announcements, one above the other the question arose: IS THE U. S. READY TO PROTECT NEGRO LIVING? Daily World

It is good that the U. S. Department of Justice, with its FBI, has after three generations decided to take positive action to implement the Negro's right to vote as guaranteed by the 15th Amendment.

But isn't it also high time the

7445

U. S. stood ready to protect the Negro's right to live, free from the omnipresent threat of lynching?

Major William E. Spence, chief of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, has admitted that "we just can't cope" with the conspiracy of silence which protests the Monroe mobsters. Maj. Spence has therefore asked Gov. Arnall to urge Congress to pass a federal law against mob violence.

7-30-46

Surely lynching is a more serious crime than kidnapping, which was made a Federal offence years ago.

Many conscientious Southerners have long insisted that the states are themselves capable of coping with lynchings. But Georgia's apparent helplessness in this present case, in which the sincere desire of Gov. Arnall and Maj. Spence to punish the guilty is beyond question, conclusively demonstrates the need for a Federal anti-lynching law.

Atlanta, Ga.

The conscience of Georgia insists that she mobilize Southern support for such a law. Then, and only then, can it be said that these four Negro citizens of Georgia did not die in vain.

34a

At a recent meeting in Hollywood called to protest the Georgia lynchings, Lena Horne, the movie star said: 8-14-46 "When such things are going on I no longer feel there is a place of refuge for us in the United States unless these things can be stopped." The Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, which sponsored the meeting posted a $1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killers.

Interest Mounts As Citizens Swell Total In Defense Fund

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

The Citizens Defense Fund of Georgia has touched a responsive chord in the hearts of Negroes and is sweeping the state like a prairie fire. E. M. Martin, treasurer of the Fund, reported Monday that a steady stream of letters, telegrams and individuals keep pouring in to swell the total which was announced here last Friday. Dr. William Holmes Borders, statewide coordinator and Chairman for the Defense Committee, reported gifts totaling over $[illegible] from Atlanta churches and individuals, with others pouring in at a rapid rate. "It is most encouraging," declared Rev. Borders, to observe the deep sense of urgency which impels the people I meet on the streets."

Everywhere, he said, pledges, running as high as $500, made at last Thursday night's meeting, are being sent in the office of the Treasurer, E. M. Martin. "In Atlanta, declared Mr. Borders, "we expect that we shall secure the $10,000 reward by Friday, if the gifts continue to flow as fast and as freely as they have in the past week or less." 8-6-46

In announcing a voluntary gift of $24 from the New Hope Baptist Association, Rev. Borders stated that a number of the churches had reported surprisingly pleasing public offerings for the cause while others, like the Central Methodist Church, Dr. E. W. McMillan, the pastor, had not beeen informed of the campaign due to the fact that he had been away on vacation and returned home late Saturday afternoon. But these would be fully represented among Atlanta's churches in the first reports next week: Dr. M. L. King, pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, also stated that his church and congregation would be represented after Sunday

The purpose of the statewide effort is to give Negroes of the state an opportunity to make a direct contribution to the expense of burying the lynch [illegible] and aid their stricken families; to aid in posting a $10,000 cash reward for the apprehension and conviction of the lynchers; aiding persons who might volunteer information leading to the apprehension of the mobbists; and to set up a permanent revolving fund which may be used as a backlog against future acts of mob-violence, lynching and civil violations. An important Defense Committee meeting early this week will map out details and announce plans which will set in motion the solicitation and subscription of funds thoughout the state.

Meanwhile, Dr. Borders, who contemplates departure from the city early this evening, announced here Monday a mammoth mass-meeting to be held at the Wheat Street Baptist Church on Friday night, so as to receive final reports from churches and individuals having made pledges previously and to finish the collection of the $10,000 reward endorsed by the Atlanta public. Tuesday

All individuals who have not paid in pledges or who have not made any contributions at all should do so at once. Address all contributions to E. M. Martin, Treasurer, 148 Auburn Avenue, NE, Atlanta.

Broadway Joins Fight Against Georgia Lynchers

Sat 8-10-46

By D. Greenspan

Daily Worker New York N.Y. 34a

The word is spreading rapidly through the night clubs, bars, theaters, broadcasting stations, music halls and wherever people of radio, stage and screen are to be found.

Broadway show-folk are raising money to post an additional reward for the Georgia killers who lynched four Negroes two weeks ago. They will also raise money to aid the family of the deceased. And will work to wake up America to the fascist threat of lynching.

Broadway's first step will be to stage a mammoth midnight show with a galaxy of top flight performers at the largest theatre that can be obtained in New York City.

The decision to get the show folk behind the fight for justice in the monstrous Georgia lynchings was reached last Tuesday at the Belasco theatre at a meeting attended by more than 50 actors and actresses, both Negro and White. It was called by the cast of Anna Lucasta.

A WARNING Sat 8-10-46

There the theatre people heard Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, warn that **"others will be lynched if the rising tide of lynching doesn't stop."**

White said that the brutal actions taking place in America are **"as dangerous a pattern as the early stages of the Hitler movement."**

It was at the Belasco theatre meeting that the NAACP secretary first revealed that he had given Attorney-General Tom Clark the names of six of the Georgia lynchers and that Tom Clark had taken no action. Boiling mad, the actors went ahead to plan the midnight show production.

Taking assignments to help organize the show were stars and understudies of **Dear Ruth, Deep Are the Roots, Show Boat, Maid of the Ozarks, and Annie Get Your Gun.**

Pledging their aid to the stars were Alan Correlli, head of Theatre Authority, producers Herman Shumlin and Kermit Bloomgarden.

The temporary committee to run the affair are members of the cast of **Anna Lucsata**. Included are the two who originally suggested that Broadway take action on the Georgia case, Edith Whiteman, actress, and Bob Saunders, assistant stage manager.

Officers of the committee are: Frank Silvera, chairman; Rozette Le Noir vice-chairman; Ossie Davis, publicity; Maxwell Glaville, contacting; and Alma Forest, secretary.

All show folk are being asked to help. Temporary headquarters are at the Mansfield Theatre, 256 W 47 St.

REWARDS FOR LYNCHINGS MADE

Gov. Arnall Offers $10,000.00 Reward For Lynchers of Four Negroes At Monroe

Monroe, Ga. [illegible]
July 26, 1946

Characterizing the mob slaying of four negroes in Walton county last week as one of the worst incidents ever to take place in this state and a humiliation to the decent citizens of Georgia, Gov. Ellis Arnall, acting for the state, has offered a reward of $500 each for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties, or a total of more than $10,000.

34a

The Gov. issued the following statement:

"As Gov. of Georgia, I am offering a reward to the full limit of the law. $500 will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest & conviction of each participant in the massacre.

"These rewards will total more than $10000. This lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice.

"I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton county until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to the law enforcement officers.

"This mass murder is one of the worst incidents ever to take place in our state. The killing of innocent people is disgraceful morally and legally.

"I am urging local law enforcement officials in Walton county and all state agents to leave nothing undone in ferreting out the guilty parties

"Civilized people everywhere will watch developments in connection with this heinous crime".

REWARD FOR CAPTURE OF LYNCHERS HITS $43,000

Defender Chicago Ill.
Sat. 8-10-46

The flood of protest by a nation, aroused to fighting pitch by the ruthless lynching of four Negroes in Monroe, Ga., was solidly backed by offers of reward for capture of the criminal mob, which to date has swelled the fund to $43,000.

Offering an initial reward of $2,000, the Chicago Defender has set up a clearing-house for acceptance of all donations, however small, with which to spark the search for the fascist lynch gang. Address your contributions to the Fund to End Fascism in the South, 3435 Indiana ave. An honor roll of contributors will be published weekly in the Defender.

34a

NAACP	**$10,000**
State of Georgia	**10,000**
Baptist Ministers' Conference of Chicago and vicinity	**15,000**
National Maritime Union (CIO)	**5,000**
American Civil Liberties Union	**1,000**
Chicago Defender	**2,000**
Total	**$43,000**

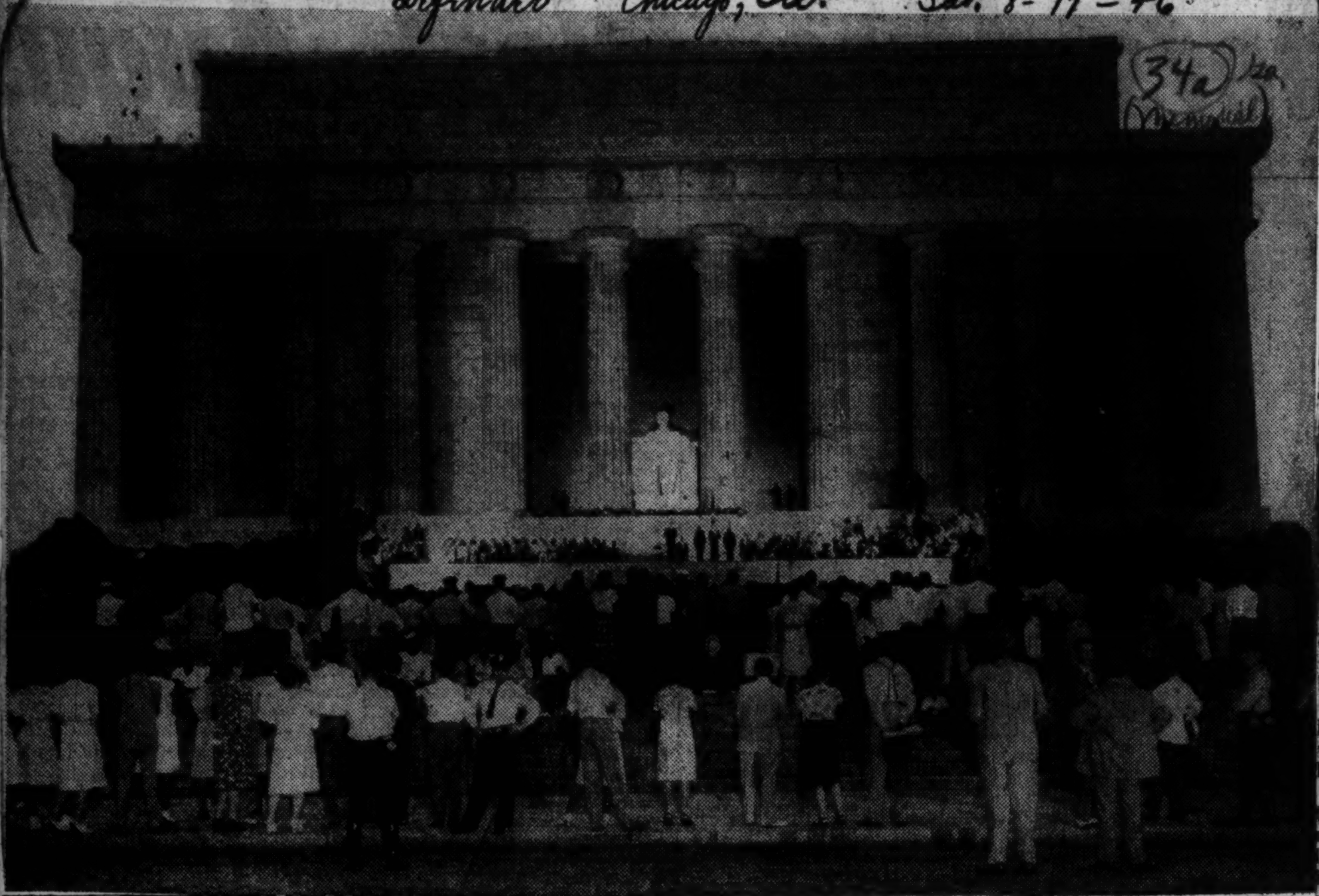
Latest contribution was from the Baptist Ministers' Conference, which passed unanimously a motion to offer the reward, made by the committee on public policy. Backing the motion were Revs. C. H. Milton, S. A. Grayson and J. H. Brown.

Late reports from Georgia were that the Negro citizens of the state are formulating plans to accumulate a reward fund of $100,000 to be added to sums already posted for capture of the Monroe butchers.

10,000 MEET TO MOURN

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-17-46

34a
Memorial



15,000 WASHINGTONIANS MOURN QUADRUPLE LYNCHING AT BASE OF MEMORIAL TO EMANCIPATOR

The Black-Dispatch Oklahoma City, Okla.

Clark Foreman Presides As Speakers Denounce Mob Murder in U. S.

Sat. 8-17-46

WOUNDED NEGRO VETS HEAD PROCESSION

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — In the midst of a silence which could have been little deeper had the caskets of the victims lay before them, 15,000 Washington citizens gathered before the Lincoln memorial Monday night to pay tribute to the latest victims of southern lynching.

The services, held under the auspices of the Southern Conference for Human welfare, began with a parade in which approximately 3,000 Washingtonians of all creeds, color and stations of life walked from Ninth and Constitution avenue to the memorial.

There were no drums, no music, only the long and silent line of crepe wearing men, women and children whose ranks were frequently broken to permit passage of tail-end crowds of homeward bound government workers and officials.

Past the department of justice, skirting the south lawn of the White House, beneath the windows of the navy department and munitions building, former home of the war department, they plodded mutely and without sound save for the shuffel and scrap of their feet.

From the moment that an American Legion trumpeter stepped forward to sound the slightly off-key notes of "retreat" as the color bearers mounted the steps of the memorial until the benediction, more than two hours later, hardly a person in the vast assembly moved or spoke save to boo or hiss the names of Bilbo or Talmadge.

Serving as color bearers were three navy veterans, clad in their dress blues. Behind them came nine uniformed army amputees from Walter Reed hospital, six walking and three pushed in wheel chairs by their comrades.

Then came 21 persons bearing wreaths and floral offerings which were placed on the top step of the memorial, as the Washington Community chorus, directed by Dean Warner Lawson of the Howard university school of music, sang "Faith of Our Fathers."

One of the wreath bearers was a 12-year-old white boy. Another was a Negro clergyman. One was a lundry worker, another a federal worker and the last a white sailor in uniform.

In delivering the invocation the Rev. R. W. Brooks of the D. C. Ministerial union declared:

"Those wreaths are being placed lest we forget, and are symbolic of our pledge that we will not rest until this land of ours is purged of those who would deny us freedom and democracy."

Dr. Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference for Human welfare, told the audience that the efforts of Secy. of State Byrnes at the Paris conference would be futile as long as the democracy which they are attempting to establish in Paris is denied Americans at home.

Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro congress, told the assembly that the service was one of "what must be thousands" which are being held in all parts of the nation to express the horror of the people at the reign of terror which has manifested itself in Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee and New York state.

Dr. Yergan then declared that the problem of lynching is not confined to any one part of the nation, that it is a nation-wide problem and assailed the inactment of Gov. Tom Dewey of New York for his inaction in the Freeport, L. I., slaying of two brothers and the wounding of a third by a white policeman.

This inaction by Dewey, he said, has given the gre light to the forces of terror throughout the nation."

He also charged that Bilbo and Rankin "stand with bloody hands in the murders of these men and women of Georgia and should be brought to the bar of justice as the stooges of Hitler were brought to the bar of justice at Nuremburg."

Charles Houston, former member of the FEPC and NAACP legal staff member, declared that lynchings were not aimed at those who were killed, but at those who are living.

"The objective," he declared, "is terror. Lynching is a bullet fired at you and at me. Else when they lynch a Negro why do they drag his body through the Negro settlement? When they lynch a labor organizer why do they throw his body in front of a labor temple?"

Counselling against fear and urging a persistent and insistent day by day fight against lynching he thundered: "They are afraid, I am not afraid, it would not take 20 men to kill me if they were not afraid. Make up your minds that if you are going to die for freedom that you are going to live for it.

"Freedom belongs to the people. Not to the white people or to the black people, but to the people. Keep at it, What are 50 years? Keep at it today, and tomorrow. Let us continue to say as we have said tonight that we are going to live as free men and women and that no terror can frighten us."

Other speakers who included Dick Bancroft of the United Negro and Allied veterans; Frank Jackson of the AVC; E. S. Grattan of the AFL, and Henry Beitscher of the CIO Industrial Union council linked the slaying in the south with the drive to organize southern labor.

Dr. Joseph Johnson, dean of the Howard university school of medicine presented a series of resolutions calling for commendation of Gov. Ellis Arnall of Georgia for his efforts at apprehension and punishment of the Georgia lynchers; and to outlaw the klan.

Calling upon President Truman for continued use of the full power of the federal government in assisting in apprehension and punishment of the criminals:

The use of the President's full executive power to outlaw the klan;

8-17-46

The recall of congress and insistence upon enactment of federal antilynch legislation.

Lynch Victims Called Heroes Of Democracy

Defender Chicago, Ill.

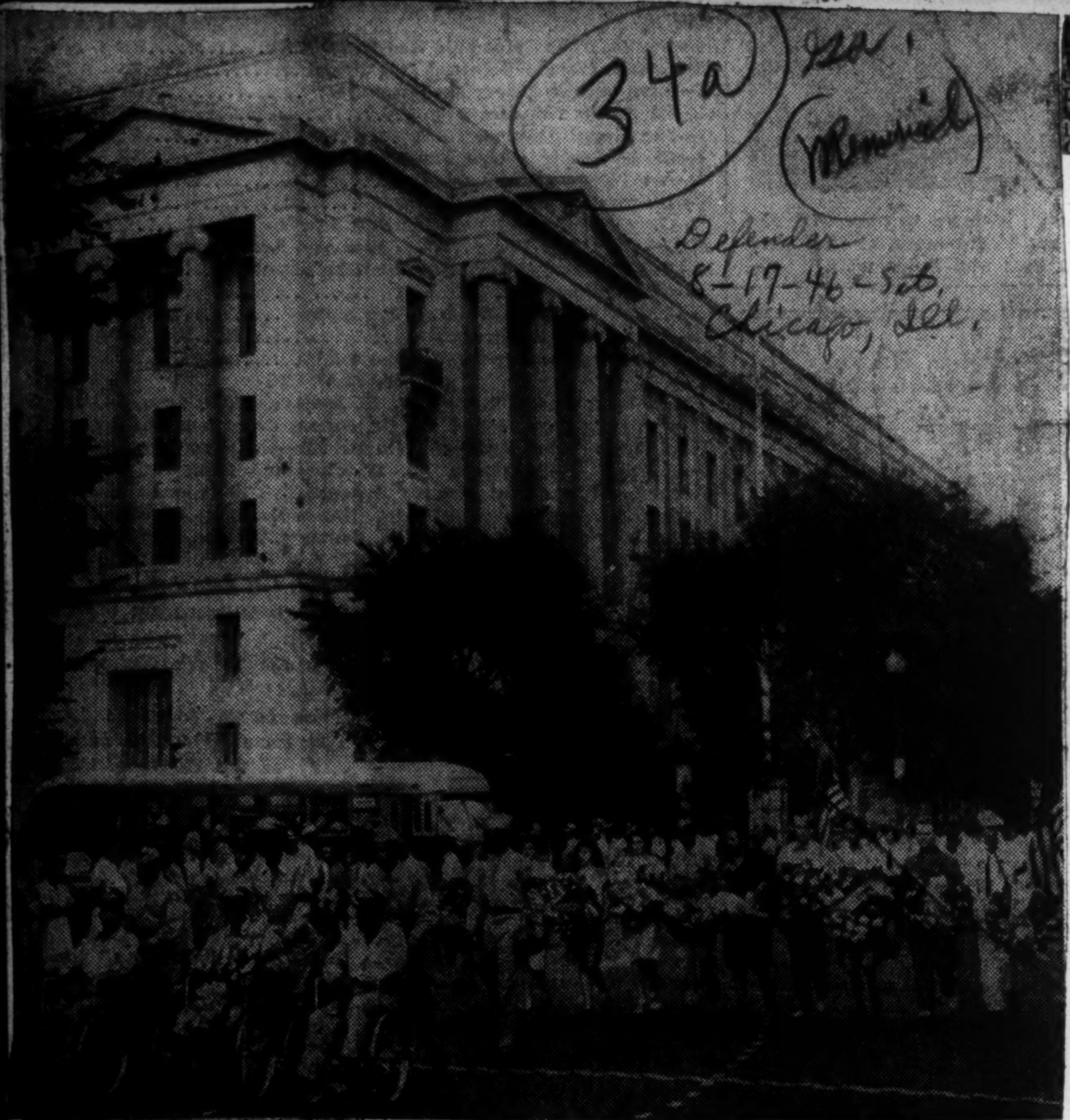
Sat. 9-14-46

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — At memorial services here last week for the four lynch victims Atty. Laurence S. Locke of Amherst called the Malcolms and the Dorseys heroes and symbols of the "fight of the common people of America for democracy and equality."

The memorial services sponsored by the local branch of the NAACP were held at St. John's Congregational Church. Chairman of the meeting was Miss Marguerite O. Carson, president of the branch.

"Veterans of the fight against axis tyranny have become victims of would-be tyrants at home. But the home-grown fascists are making a grave mistake if they think their Hitler cry of white supremacy will cause the white veteran to desert his colored comrade at this time," Attorney Locke said.

He asserted, "We learned during the war that it is not the color of man's skin, or what church he prays in, or in what country his father was born that counts. It's whether a man has the stuff to fight for the things he believes in—democracy, equality, security and freedom."



34a Ga.,

Memorial

Defender
8-17-46-S.S.
Chicago, Ill.

Beneath the benevolent shadow of the Lincoln Monument in Washington, citizens of the city joined in memorial services for victims of lynchings in Southern states. In lower picture more than 10,000 joined a parade along Constitution ave., which preceded the services at the shrine of the Great Emanciptaor. Demonstration in the capitol coincided with similar services in the South.

8,000 Mourn Ga. Victims in Detroit

Special to the Daily Worker

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

8/19/ 34a Ga.,

DETROIT, Aug. 18.—Eight thousand Detroiters marched through in a memorial parade for the two Negro couples lynched in Walton County, Georgia.

The parade passed the Sojourner Truth monument before City Hall and assembled in Cadillac Square.

Speakers demanded the removal of Attorney General Tom Clark by President Truman for failure to act.

Among 40 organizations participating were:

The American Legion, the American Veterans Committee, the National Maritime Union, Local 600 of the CIO United Automobile Workers, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Detroit CIO Council, and the National Negro Congress.

Hate Monger

FLAYS MIXED MEETING; CURSES KKK

The Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

-46

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for most of the recent violence against colored citizens is a letter dated Aug. 6, to Daniel E. Byrd, President of Louisiana NAACP branches, from W. W. Carpenter. Postmarked Columbia, S. C., a photostatic copy of the hate-spreading letter is now in the files of The Courier. The letter reads in part:

"You [illegible] of a b—— just keep on talking and you will bring this thing to a head—sooner the better.

"What happened in Georgia was fine and should happen all over this country, and the whites that met with you n——rs are no better than you.

[illegible] to the Klan."

FOLLOWED MEMORIAL

The letter, signed by Carpenter, followed and apparently referred to a memorial service (for the four victims of the Monroe, Ga., lynchings) in the Young Women's Christian Association Building, 929 Gravier Street, Monday night, Aug.

A resume of the interracial meeting at which outstanding religious leaders and citizens denounced the lynchings was published by the Associated Press.

Among those who spoke at the memorial services were Mrs. Joseph H. Friend, prominent civic worker; S. J. Sullivan, port agent of the Maritime Union; the Right Rev. Robert N. Brooks, resident bishop of the New Orleans area of the Methodist Church; the Rev. Father Thomas J. McNamara, pastor of Corpus Christi Catholic Church; Dr. David Fischman, a prominent Jewish Rabbi, and Clarence A. Laws, industrial secretary of the New Orleans Urban League.

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full

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
July 27, 1946

Two Young Farm Hands and Wives Waylaid by Mob and Shot in Bloody Massacre Near Monroe, Ga.; Lynching Party Apparently Looking Only for One Man Who Had Stabbed His White Employer; Women Slain When One of Them Recognized a Member of the Mob; Attorney-General Tom Clark Orders FBI Probe

Monroe, Ga., July 26.—(AP)—The bloody massacre of two young Negro farm hands and their wives by an armed and unmasked band of white men brought the promise of a Federal investigation today.

The ghastly details of the multiple lynching were told by Loy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was taking the Negroes to his farm and who was held at gun point by the mob.

Harrison had come to Monroe from his farm to get Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. He was accompanied by the three other Negroes, Malcolm's wife and George Dorsey and his wife.

Waylaid by Mob.

The white man and the four Negroes were en route back home in a car when they were waylaid by the mob. Their questioning indicated they were seeking Malcolm. There was no indication why they also took Dorsey out for execution. The women were killed because one of them recognized a member of the mob.

Lined Up and Shot

Harrison said the band, led by a "tall" dignified looking white man" lined the Negroes up four abreast, and then to the count of "one, two, three" by the leader, three volleys were fired into the quartet.

"I didn't have anything but a pocket knife," Harrison related. "What could I do?"

Harrison said "most of the men were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me. The leader looked like a retired business man. He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big broad brimmd hat. He looked like he had a good Florida suntan."

It was the first lynching of more than one person in Georgia since 1918. Ten Negroes were lynched in Brooks County then. There have been nine instances of multiple lynchings in the state since 1892.

Coroner W. T. Brown said that at least 60 bullets were pumped into the bodies of the Negro farm hands and their wives. The grotesquely sprawled bodies were found in a clump of bushes beside a little used sideroad.

The hands of the two men were bound behind them. The hands of the women were free. The upper part of the bodies were scarcely recognizable from the mass of bullet holes.

The women were sisters.

Story Delayed.

The stark rural tragedy—first of its kind in Georgia since long before the war—occurred about eight miles from here late yesterday, but the story did not "leak out" until today. Monroe is 40 miles northeast of metropolitan Atlanta.

Probe Ordered.

A few hours later Attorney General Tom Clark's office in Washington announced that a "complete investigation" had been ordered into the multiple lynching.

The announcement from Washington said that the Federal Bureau of Investigation would carry out the inquiry for the civil rights section of the Department of Justice.

One of the Negroes was shot in the back and Coroner Brown said that this indicated some member of the mob fired at him after he fell from the first fusilade.

The slaughter came as the aftermath of the stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester, 22, a farmer, on July 14. Hester is still in a hospital here.

One of the mob victims, Roger Malcolm, 27, had just been released from jail under $600 bond on charges of stabbing Hester, for whom he worked.

Dragged From Car.

Several of the men then came back and dragged the shrieking women from the automobile. Then, a few moments later, Harrison heard the shots—many of them. The mob dispersed.

The nearest house to the scene was a mile and a half away. Harrison made his way two miles to a country store and called the sheriff. The sheriff came and they found the bodies in the bushes.

The sheriff, E. S. Gordon, said that since Harrison could not identify any member of the band he had gone as far as he could with his investigation. He called in state police. The lynching was the first in the nation in nearly a year, and was the first multiple lynching since two 14-year-old Negro boys charged with attempted rape were hanged by a Mississippi mob in October, 1942.

Lynchings Declining.

Lynchings have steadily declined in the last decade. Last year only one lynching was listed by Tuskegee Institute, and it was disputed whether the act, which occurred in Florida, was actually a lynching.

In 1933 there were 28 lynchings in 11 states. By 1939 there were only three lynchings in two states. In 1940 the figure rose to five, but dropped to four in 1941. In 1942 there were five again, in 1943 three, and in 1944 two.

Lynchings have taken a sharp downward curve in the last half century. The all-time high was in 1892 when 231 were recorded.

Harrison was the only witness to testify at the inquest, which resulted in a verdict of death at the hands of unknown parties. He testified to these details:

With the Negroes in his car he came to a wooden bridge spanning a river which divides Walton and Oconee counties. An automobile across the road blocked his passage.

He stopped. Another car drove in behind him. Then another and another. A man who apparently assumed the role of leader of the mob armed with rifles and shotguns, walked up and said:

"We want Roger."

Harrison answered: "That's not Roger. That's George."

Another mobster put a gun to Harrison's neck, and the leader said:

"This is our party. You keep out of it. We ought to kill you too."

Then the Negro men were dragged out of the car and bound with ropes and marched off. Then several members of the mob came back and dragged the women down the road.

FARMER RELATES STORY OF GEORGIA LYNCHINGS

Monroe, Ga., July 26.—(AP)—An on-the-spot account of how four Negroes were lined up abreast and riddled by three volleys from the guns of an unmasked band of white men was related today by a well-to-do farmer held at gun-point during the lynchings.

The farmer, Loy Harrison, who was taking the two negroes and their wives to his farm in a car, said the leader of the band of 20 men—"tall and dignified looking . . . like a retired business man"—counted "one,two, three!" before each volley.

The victims of the mob were Roger Malcolm, 27, just released under bond on a charge of stabbing a farmer for whom he worked; his wife, and George Dorsey and his wife. The multiple lynching occurred late yesterday.

Harrison left his stone house on his big farm and accompanied newsmen and officers to the scene on the banks of the Appalachee River where he gave this account:

"I was on my way back home. I'd made bond for one of the Negroes—Roger Malcolm. We came to the bridge across the river and I looked across and saw a car blocking the other end of the bridge.

"I thought to myself 'federal men.'

"Then from both sides of the car men commenced coming out from the side. A car came up behind me and his bumper touched mine. One of the men came out, put a shotgun against the back of my head and said 'all of you put 'em up.'

"One man said 'there's the man we want—pointing to Roger.'

"Some of the men in the group then went to the two Negro men and slipped ropes around their hands—expert like, pretty like.

"They then pulled the two Negro men from the car and started leading 'em off.

"Then one of the Negro women commenced cussing like everything and called out one of the men's names whom she evidently recognized. When she did that, the leader of the group who was leading the two men away said 'hold everything,' selected four men and said 'go back and get them bitches.'

"They then told me to get out of my car. They pulled the women out of the car and I stood beside it while a little short man stood at the end of the bridge and looked down the barrel of his shotgun at me all the time.

"One of the men asked: 'You recognize anybody here?' I replied no.

"I'd turn my head sideways and I could see the men line 'em up. I could see the Negroes four abreast. I could see the back of the men's heads. I heard the leader of the group say 'one, two, three' and then boom. He did that three times. There were three volleys.

"They told me then to get back in the car. I did and they told me I could turn my car around and go when I wanted to. I did turn around and I looked up in the car mirror and saw 'em going two by two across the bridge.

"I then went to the phone and called the sheriff. The whole thing must have lasted about three minutes, although it seemed much longer than that. I was excited, naturally, but I wasn't too scared.

"The leader was tall and dignified looking. He looked like a retired business man. He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big broad brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good healthy Florida suntan. He was not armed.

"There were about 20 men in the group. Many of them were dressed in khaki clothes just like me.

"The men were armed with pistols and shotguns. I do not know what calibre the weapons were.

"I didn't have anything but a pocket knife.

"What could I do?"

GEORGIA ADMITS IT CAN'T SOLVE LYNCHING, ASKS FEDERAL HELP

The Black-Dispatch Oklahoma City, Okla.

ATLANTA — (ANP) — Georgia's inability to cope with the situation at Monroe's quadruple lynching was admitted Sunday by Maj. W. E. Spence, director of the Georgia Department of Public Safety after two days of investigation by the GBI. Sat 8-10-46

Said Spence: "We need federal backing. With conditions that now exist in Georgia we can't cope with them."

The first suspect arrested in the massacre of two Negro men and their wives was quickly released Saturday night upon the failure of J. Loy Harrison, prosperous Oconee county white farmer, only witness to the lynching, to identify him as "the leader."

Spence announced he was prepared to urge passage of a federal anti-lynch law and would lay his case before Gov. Ellis Arnall as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, the governor expressed a determination to apprehend the armed, unmasked mob and deliver them to local authorities for trial. He announced Saturday the state would pay $500 for each of the approximately 20 white slayers—the maximum reward authorized by law. He pointed out the total will be more than $10,000. Other rewards were offered by the Civil Rights congress in New York, $1,000; the Southern Regional council, $500, and the American Civil Liberties' union $1,000.

Funerals for the three of the victims in the ambush slaying of the four principals were held Sunday at churches in Monroe and Oconee county. The rites were attended by thousands, some of whom had visited the funeral parlor where the bodies lay for public view of both white and black.

The victims, Roger Malcolm, his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Malcolm, George Dorsey and Mrs. Mae M. Dorsey were riding in an automobile with J. Liy Harrison when the mob of white men halted them at bridge over the Apalachee river late Thursday afternoon. Malcolm had been released only about half an hour earlier from the Monroe county jail where he had been incarcerated some two weeks previously on account of stabbing his employer, B. H. Hester Jr.

At the scene of the lynching at Moore's Ford bridge, less than 75 feet from the Oconee county line, Harrison told the following story to a jury impaneled by Walton county coroner Tom Brown and Deputy Sheriff C. J. Sorrells:

Harrison said he carried the Dorsey couple and their sister, Mrs. Malcolm, to Monroe around 2 o'clock Thursday to gain Roger Malcolm's release. They stayed around town until 5 o'clock, during which time Harrison said he was getting his car repaired. Dorsey's release was gained and the quintet proceeded to Harrison's farm.

Harrison drove along a side road which he said was a short cut to his Oconee clunty farm, avoiding the main Monroe-Athens Highway. When he and the four Negroes reached the Monroe's Ford bridge, a car blocked the road. Suddenly another car filled with white men drove up and from the bushes and behind trees sprang out approximately 20 whites armed with pistols, rifles and shotguns.

The mobsters ordered the car stopped and pulled out Malcolm and Dorsey, tying their hands and pushing them down a road beside the river. Harrison said the mob forced him to move away from the car.

As the white men marched the men away, Mrs. Malcolm apparently recognized one of the mobsters and addressing him by name asked that he not let them kill her husband.

Then the leader of the mob is said to have yelled: "I guess you better bring those damn women along too."

After marching the quartet to a spot some distance away, the leader ordered them linedup and after counting, "one, two, three!" bellowed "fire" which sent three volleys of lead and steel through the bodies of the victims. The blasts were concentrated that parts of the head and thorax were torn away.

Harrison said that after the shooting he was released and told that he was not to recognize anyone there. He later notified the sheriff.

At the inquest, Harrison testified that he was unable to identify any of the mob, that he was shielded from view. The cornor's jury returned a verdict of death at the hands of unknown parties.

It was the same old story, the same old pattern, but this time it sent an unusual shock through the state and nation.

Gov. Ellis Arnall immediately ordered Maj. Spence and the GBI to stay in Walton county until the crime was solved. From Washington, Atty. Gen. Tom Clark ordered the FBI to the scene.

After a day of investigation, Maj. Spence said it appeared to him that the lynching was a planned affair.

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Stall Arrests in Ga. As Talmadge Reign Nears

Daily Worker 34 a Ga.

New York, N.Y. (Investigation)

By Art Shields

MONROE, Ga., Aug. 8.—Further delay in arresting Loy Harrison, rich cotton planter, and other suspects in the mass lynching near here bodes ill for the Negro people and for all white and colored workers and poor farmers in the South.

Every day of delay brings the lynchers' protector, Eugene Talmadge, nearer to the Georgia State House, and makes witnesses more afraid to talk. Fri 8-9-46

The delay is a national scandal. Two weeks have passed since Harrison drove his tenant, George Dorsey, a war veteran, with whom he had quarreled, and Dorsey's wife to the death spot on the banks of the Appalache River. With them were two other victims—Roger Malcolm, another sharecropper some planters wanted to get, and Malcolm's wife.

Many of the 20 lynchers are known.

Their trail hasn't been extremely difficult for authorities to follow. Mobsters tried to lynch Roger Malcolm once before—at Hestertown, July 14, after he had had a fight with his landlord, young Barney Hester.

SHERIFF KNOWS MOB

Sheriff Gordon of Walton County and Hestertown Negroes can tell something of that mob. It scattered when Gordon came to the

the meantime Eugene Talmadge has held a long conference at Hestertown with his friend, old Bob Hester, the father of Barney. That conference was held July 16, two days after the first lynching attempt, as the Daily Worker has exclusively reported. Fri 8-9-46

Groups of suspects were also seen gathering in spots in Walton County several hours before the lynching. . . . They gathered, waiting for the signal that Harrison had left the Monroe jailhouse with Malcolm—whom he had bailed out for $600—and the other three victims. Ga.

Walter White, leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has given Attorney General Tom Clark the names of six men whom Walton County Negroes implicate in the quadruple killings.

The 30 or more Federal G-men who are said to be working on the case in Walton County, must have

still other names.

Harrison didn't talk like an innocent man the day George Dorsey was buried.

"The Federal men are blaming me," he kept nervously saying to several Walton County Negroes and myself outside his big, brick house.

His hard, stony eyes shifted from side to side as he talked. Ga.

There was reason for the Federal men's suspicions. Harrison had had trouble with Dorsey. The latter had refused to get off the plantation after "laying by" the cotton crop, which should have paid him off with $500 to $600 net. He had talked back to the "boss man," when the latter told him to go. Fri 8-9-46

Harrison's delay in taking Malcolm out of jail on the massacre day seems significant in view of what happened. He made Malcolm's bond at 2 p.m., but didn't take him out of jail at that time. He let the sharecropper, whom he said he needed as a new "hand," stay in prison for three more hours . . . three hours during which more killers could come to the rendezvous spot . . . three hours while the sun was going down and traffic was fading on Walton County roads.

No one boubts Harrison lied in his eyewitness story of the killings that followed . . . his story, that no automobile followed his car, was shattered by a boy of 12 who told of a big auto just behind him.

Negro Publishers Ask Arnall, Truman To Act On Mobsters

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Tuesday 7-30-46

The Board of Directors of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, in special session in Chicago sent telegrams to President Harry S. Truman and Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia asking for full cooperation of their offices in justice for the perpetrators of the killing of four Negroes in Walton County, Georgia, Thursday by a group of [illegible]

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The members of the Board asked the Chief Executive to direct Congress to enact a Federal Anti-Lynching Law before adjournment of that body.

Governor Arnall was called upon by the body to make an immediate and thorough investigation of the brutal lynching and to see that "these cowardly murderers be brought to justice." The Board asked for the immediate removal from office of Sheriff Gordon of Monroe who has said, "There is nothing else I can do." 7-30-46

MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT

In part, the telegram to President Truman follows:

'We, the directors of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, meeting in special session, fear that unless the influence of your office is enlisted to insure equal protection under the Constitution of the United States for all citizens, there will continue a mounting wave of violence and bloodshed equalling the worst demonstrations of Hitler's racism.

"To avert this disgraceful condition and to re-establish constitutional protection, we respectfully implore you to direct a message to Congress urging enactment of a Federal Anti-Lynching Law. Should Congress adjourn without such action, we respectfully ask you to summon Congress in special session to restore and preserve law and order in America.

'Mr. President, the lives of American citizens are in jeopardy today." 7-30-46

MESSAGE TO GOV. ARNALL

To Governor Arnall the telegram from the Board of Directors of the NNPA said, in part:

"The Board of Directors . . . respectfully call upon you to make an immediate and thorough investigation of the brutal lynching of four Negroes . . . and to see that the perpetrators of these cowardly murders be brought to justice.

"We also urge the immediate removal from office of Sheriff Gordon, who says, 'There is nothing else I can do.' Tuesday

SIGNERS OF MESSAGES

The following members were signers of the two messages:

Frank L. Stanley, pres., Louisville, Ky.; Howard Murphy, secretary, Baltimore, Md.; C. A. Scott, Atlanta, Ga.; John Sengstacke, Chicago, Illinois; J. E. Mitchell, St. Louis, Mo.; Louis Martin, Detroit, Mich.; Thomas Young, Norfolk, Va.; Ira F. Lewis, Pittsburg, Pa.; Carter Wesley, Houston, Tex.; D. Arnet Murphy, Baltimore, Md.; W. O. Walker of Cleveland, Ohio and Dowdal Davis of Kansas City, Mo., board members were not present at the special session in Chicago.

Cordele, Ga. Dispatch
July 31, 1946

Negro Leaders Demand Troops Sent To Georgia

Negro leaders in Washington have demanded that Federal troops be sent to Georgia to act in the lynching of four Negroes near Monroe last week.

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Director Edgar Brown of the National Negro Council said the lynchings will touch off riots all over the country unless troops are sent to Georgia.

He made the statement after conferring with Presidential Assistant David Niles.

Brown and Negro Council president wanted to see President Truman, but he was busy with other matters. They were openly bitter at not being allowed to see the president.

Investigating officers in Monroe have made no statements this afternoon, but the Federal Bureau of Investigation has tripled its staff on the scene, six FBI men are now working on the case. And Governor Ellis Arnall has called on state investigators to double their efforts in solving the killings.

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3 OF LYNCHING MOB REPORTED KNOWN

Washington Newspaper Says Georgia Official Revealed Progress by the FBI

Sat. 8-10-46

ATLANTA, Aug. 9 (AP)—Gov. Ellis Arnall said today that progress is "very slow" in investigation of the lynching of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., July 25, and police "have nothing definite as yet."

The Governor made his statement to newspaper men after The Washington Post quoted an anonymous Georgia official as saying the FBI has put its finger on at least three of the gang and is tying up threads of other evidence before arresting the entire mob.

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Governor Arnall, who said he had been in constant touch with Federal and State investigators, declared "I know nothing of any identifications or arrests in the Walton County cases."

John F. Trost, head of the FBI office here, declined comment.

The Post story said "evidence leading to a complete round-up of the mob which participated in the lynching will soon be laid before Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia and Attorney General Tom Clark in Washington.

"A State official in Georgia disclosed that not one but two mobs were involved in the lynch attempt.

"The second group was guarding another road which the farm hands and their wives, later slain, could have traveled. The group did not participate in the actual killing, the official said. The group, however, was prepared to act if the other mob had not stopped the Negroes.

"Another State official, who asked not to be quoted, said that the FBI had put its finger on at least three of the gang and is tying up the threads of other evidence before making arrests of the entire lynch mob."

Truman Pushing Inquiry

Times New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 (AP)—President Truman told his news conference today the federal investigations into the recent lynchings of four Negroes in Georgia were going forward with all the energy possible. Sat. 8-10-46

The President made this comment when he was asked about the progress of the inquiry he asked Attorney General Tom Clark to make.

He said he had no official information on the progress of Mr. Clark's inquiry, except that it was going forward with all the energy possible.

Anti-Lynch Mail Investigated

Times New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9 (AP)—The Postoffice Department said today it is investigating the use of an OPA free-postage envelope to mail an invitation to an anti-lynching meeting held here Monday.

A department oficial told a reporter that the envelope and invitation were submitted to the department by the Senate postmaster. Sat. 8-10-46

Senator Theodore G. Bilbo, Democrat, of Mississippi, told newsmen at the Capitol that he had received an invitation to the meeting in an OPA postage-free envelope and that he had turned the letter and envelope over to the postal inspectors and asked for an investigation.

JUSTICE DEPT. KNOWS THREE LYNCHERS—STILL STALLING

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Sat. 8-10-46

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9.—At least three members of the mob which lynched the four Negroes in Monroe, Ga., are known to the Department of Justice, but a department spokesman said here today the case was still being "investigated."

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Asked for the names of the killers, the spokesman added, "No comment."

The Justice Department's knowledge of the killers was brought to public attention by the Washington Post, which reported it was told by a Georgia official that the FBI "had put its finger on at least three of the gang and is tying up threads of other evidence before making arrests of the entire mob."

The Washington Post did not reveal the name of the official, who also disclosed to the newspaper that a second mob was guarding another road which the four victims and Loy Harrison, Monroe County farmer, could have traveled. This armed mob was prepared to kill the Negroes

if the other group failed.

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Lynch Probers Say They Face A Stone Wall

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item,
July 29, 1946

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Monroe, Ga., July 29. — (AP) — State police reported today they had run into a "stone wall" in tracking down every lead in the investigation of the multiple negro lynching near here.

"We have talked to a lot of people and gotton nowhere," said maj. William E. Spence, head of the state police. "We think we know who some of the members of the mob are, but we can't prove it."

Meanwhile ,the congregation of the First Methodist church here yesterday by resolution called on local and Walton county authorities to cooperate with the state authorities.

The resolution brought a prompt retort from Sheriff E. S. Gordon, who said: "We are ready to cooperate with the state. We've always been ready. It didn't take any resolution for that."

Spence said that the "good people" in Walton county wouldn't talk about the massacre even though some of them "know who members of the gang are."

The state of Georgia, through Gov. Ellis Arnall, has offered $10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of the 20 odd mobsters w ho shot down four negroes near here Thulrsday,

Other organizations have offered additional rewards.

The mob victims—Roger and Dorothy Malcolmn and George and Mae Dorsey — were seized from the car of a white farmer, lined up and killed by three volleys of fire from pistols and shotguns.

Roger Malcolm had been under $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his white employer. Spence said information indicated that the lynching, which went off with precision, had been "well rehearsed."

George Dorsey and Dorothy Malcolm were buried yesterday at Mt. Perry church, about 15 miles from here. They were brother and sister. Mae Dorsey was buried here.

Funeral services for Dorsey and his sister were delayed for more than two hours while friends waited for the Dorsey family. The family however, failed to appear. No reason was given by Dorsey's relatives for failure of the immediate family to attend the funeral.

The lynching, first multiple one in the South since 1942, brought the promise for a negro organization of a mass demonstration in front of the White House in Washington today.

FARMER DESCRIBES SLAUGHTER OF FOUR

Times

He Says Wives of 2 Negroes Were Slain When One Woman Called Name of Lyncher

New York, N.Y.

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 26 (AP)—Loy Harrison, a prosperous Georgia farmer who was held off at gun point while a band of men shot and killed four Negroes near here, related an on-the-spot account of the massacre today.

Mr. Harrison accompanied newsmen and officers to the scene on the banks of the Appalachee River where he gave this account:

"I was on my way back home. I'd made bond for one of the Negroes, Roger Malcolm. We came to the bridge across the river and I looked across and saw a car blocking the other end of the bridge.

Saturday 7-27-46

Shotgun Against Back

"Then from both sides of the car men commenced coming out from the side. A car came up behind me and his bumper touched mine. One of the men came out, put a shotgun against the back of my head and said, 'all of you put 'em up.'

"One man said, 'There's the man we want." He pointed at Roger.

"Some of the men in the group went to the two Negro men and slipped ropes around their hands.

"Then one of the Negro women commenced cussing like everything and called out one of the men's names whom she evidently recognized. When she did that, the leader of the group who was leading the two men away said, 'Hold everything,' selected four men and said, 'Go back and get them.'

"They pulled the women out of the car and I stood beside it while a little short man stood at the end of the bridge and looked down the barrel of his shotgun at me.

Mob Fired Three Volleys

"One of the men asked: 'You recognize anybody here?' I replied no.

7-27-46

"I could see the men line 'em up. I could see the Negroes four abreast. I could see the back of the men's heads. I heard the leader of the group say 'one, two, three' and then boom. H did that three times. There were three volleys.

"They told me then to get back in the car. I did and they told me I could turn my car around and go when I wanted to.

"I then went to the phone and called the Sheriff."

LYNCHINGS DECLARED 'BLOT ON WHOLE U. S.'

New York, N.Y.

Times

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WASHINGTON, July 27 (AP)—Senator Knowland, Republican, of California, told the Senate today that the lynching of four Negroes in Georgia was a "blot on the whole United States."

He urged that the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation exert their "full force" in cooperation with Georgia State officers in an attempt to track down members of the mob.

Several Southern Senators, including Senator Russell of Georgia, expressed displeasure when Senator Knowland inserted in The Congressional Record a clipping from The New York Herald Tribune concerning the lynching. Times

"Crimes of this nature are not confined to the State of Georgia," Senator Russell declared. "I doubt not that if I were to peruse the newspapers of California I would find that there have been brutal crimes committed by people of that State." 7-28-46

He said that he expected to ask publication in the Record of news stories relating to crime in States other than his own. New York N.Y.

Senator Johnston of South Carolina declared that he "resented" Senator Knowland's action in placing the clipping in the Record. He noted that the Senate rules forbid a member from referring "offensively" to any State.

Senator Knowland replied that he meant no offense, but did not think the Senate should remain silent when such a crime was committed.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
Aug. [illegible] 1946

14 Lynchings

34a (2)

Editor Constitution: I was dumbfounded to read in Eugene Talmadge's statement on the Monroe lynching the following claim: "During my three terms as Governor of Georgia there was not a lynching in the State." Even for one so adept at twisting facts for his own purposes, this seems an especially absurd and reckless method of attempting to mislead intelligent Georgians. It is both common knowledge and recorded fact that there were, during his three terms as Governor, a total of 14 lynchings in Georgia. The year 1942 is the only year of his governorship which was free of lynchings. In 1933 there were four, in 1934 there was one, in 1935 there were two, and in 1936 there were six. During his last term there was one, in 1941, making a total for all three terms of 14. The source of these facts is the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., whose records of lynchings are so widely accepted as official that they are used by the World Almanac.

JANE T. MARTIN.
568 Page Ave., N. E.

Birmingham, Ala., News
July ~~5~~ 29, 1946

Georgia Authorities No Nearer Solution Of Multiple Lynching

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 29 — (AP) — State police reported today they had run into a "stone wall" in tracking down every lead in the investigation of the multiple Negro lynching near here.

"We have talked to a lot of people and got nowhere," said Maj. William E. Spence, head of the state police. "We think we know who some of the members of the mob are, but we can't prove it."

Meanwhile, the congregation of the First Methodist Church here yesterday by resolution called on local and Walton County authorities to cooperate with the state authorities.

The resolution brought a prompt retort from Sheriff E. S. Gordon, who said: "We are ready to cooperate with the state. We've always been ready. It didn't take any resolution for that."

Spence said that the "good people" in Walton County wouldn't talk about the massacre even though some of them "know who members of the gang are."

The state of Georgia, through Gov. Ellis Arnall, has offered $10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of the 20-odd mobsters who shot down four Negroes near here Thursday.

Other organizations have offered additional rewards.

The mob victims—Roger and Dorothy Malcom and George and Mae Dorsey—were seized from the car of a white farmer, lined up and killed by three volleys of fire from pistols and shotguns.

* * *

ROGER MALCOM HAD BEEN under $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his white employer. Spence said information indicated that the lynching, which went off with precision, had been "well rehearsed."

George Dorsey and Dorothy Malcom were buried yesterday at Mt. Perry Church, about 15 miles from here. They were brother and sister. Mae Dorsey was buried here.

Funeral services for Dorsey and his sister were delayed more than two hours while friends waited for the Dorsey family. The family, however, failed to appear. No reason was given by Dorsey's relatives for failure of the immediate family to attend the funeral.

The lynching, first multiple one in the South since 1942, brought the promise from a Negro organization of a mass demonstration in front of the White House in Washington today.

Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress, said in New York yesterday that representatives from various councils of the organization would stage the demonstration in Washington to protest the lynchings. A Harlem protest meeting held under sponsorship of the congress yesterday adopted a resolution saying the lynchings came as a direct result of "the campaign of race hate" carried on in the South by Sen. Bilbo (D., Miss.) and Gov. Nominate Gene Talmadge of Georgia.

Columbia, S. C., Record
July 26, 1946

Whites Shoot Four Negroes Near Oconee

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34a

MONROE, Ga., July 26.—(AP)—Sheriff E. S. Gordon said today that a band of armed white men ambushed and shot to death four Negroes near the Walton-Oconee county line in northeast Georgia late yesterday.

The sheriff said the four—two men and their wives—were taken from Loy Harrison, Oconee (South Carolina) county farmer, and slain with shotguns and pistols. Their bodies were found near the Line Fort bridge, riddled with bullets.

Harrison was reported to have testified at a corner's jury hearing Thursday night but details of his statement were not immediately available.

Sheriff Gordon identified the victims as Roger Malcolm and his wife and George Butler and his wife. He said Malcolm had been released from the Walton county jail under $600 bond only a few hours previously on charges of stabbing his former employer, Barney Hester.

Hester, he continued, still is under treatment at a hospital here.

The mob was composed of between 20 and 30 men, the sheriff reported.

Sheriff Hester said Harrison reported he was held at gun point while the two men were shot to death. The sheriff said it was believed the mob had not intended to kill the women but unconfirmed reports said one of them recognized a member of the mob and called him by his name. It then was decided to shoot the two women, the sheriff said.

Sheriff Gordon said Harrison had brought Butler's and Malcolm's wife with him to Monroe to furnish bond for Malcolm, and was en route to his home when the mob waylaid his automobile.

The stabbing of Hester occurred July 14, the sheriff said, when the farmer remonstrated with Malcolm for abusing his wife. Hester's condition was reported "good" today.

Sheriff Gordon said the Georgia Bureau of Investigation has been called in to assist in the investigation.

White House Visitor Wants Troops in Georgia

News-Courier

Washington, July 29.—(U.P.): Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro Council said today the Monroe, Ga. Lynching of four negroes would touch off "riots all over the country" unless President Truman sends troops to Georgia.

34a

"We are going to have to send troops down South, there is no question about it," Brown said. He made the statement after he and Max Yergan, president of the National Negro council, went to the White House with demands that the government act against the mob slaying of two negroes and their wives. ~~Sat.~~ Tues. 7-30-46

They conferred with Presidential Assistant David K. Niles after being informed that President Truman was busy with other matters and was unable to see them. Brown also sought to see Mathew J. Connelly, Mr. Truman's secretary.

Openly bitter about not being allowed to see Mr. Truman, Brown said that "When we cannot get an audience with the president it looks like 13,000,000 negroes do not have the rights of the white man."

Charleston, S.C.

Columbia, S. C., Record
July 30, 1946

Condemnation Of Lynching Voiced Anew

34a

ATLANTA, July 30—(AP)—Two large groups of ministers in Atlanta have added voices of protest to the lynching of four Negroes in Monroe, 30 miles east of here, last Thursday.

Episcopal ministers in a called meeting yesterday issued a statement saying "We can think of no atrocity in this generation of our state quite so loathsome and ominous."

The statement concluded with a plea to "all men of good will" to "take their stand for the right in this solemn hour."

Seventy-one Methodist ministers of Atlanta adopted a resolution which said in part:

"We have just recently sent millions of the flower of our young manhood to Europe and to Asia to stamp out Naziism whose habit has been to take the law into its own hands and murder helpless people.

"Now, in Georgia, something closely akin to Naziism in Europe and Asia has arisen, and in every sense it is just as brutal..."

Meanwhile, at Monroe, no developments appeared in the search for the mob of 20-odd men being conducted by the Federal bureau of Investigation and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Maj. William E. Spence, GBI head, said a solution would take long and careful police work. Rewards totaling $10,000 have been offered by Gov. Ellis Arnall on behalf of the state for information leading to conviction of the mobsters.

State Negroes Seek $100,000 Defense Fund

Atlanta, Ga., [illegible]
Aug 2, 1946

34a

Georgia Negroes Friday launched a campaign to raise a $100,000 defense fund to protect themselves against such mob violence as the Walton County massacre of two farm hands and their wives.

Meeting at Wheat Street Baptist Church Thursday night, sponsors of the campaign voted to post $10,000 of the fund as a reward for apprehension of the Walton County mob. This would bring the total reward in that crime to $42,000.

The Wheat Street church session, attended by approximately 1,500 Negroes and presided over by Dr. William Holmes Borders, pastor, also voted to help defray the burial expenses of the mob victims.

The remaining $90,000 of the $100,000 defense fund would be maintained for the purpose of offering other rewards should there be more lynchings in the state. Negro leaders said that they expected to raise the $100,000 in two weeks.

The campaign will be pressed through Negro churches, fraternal organizations and unions.

A resolution deploring the mass slaying of four Negroes in Walton County recently was adopted Thursday by the luncheon meeting of laymen representing Atlanta parishes of the Episcopal Church. The resolution denounced the affair as "unwarranted and unjustifiable murder" and appealed to the constitutional authorities to "go to the limit of their resources" to apprehend the guilty.

OMINEE SORRY BOUT LYNCHING

rmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
July 30, 1946

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 29—(AP)—Eugene Talmadge, who'll take over as Georgia's governor in January, said today the mass-lynching of four Negroes here last week was "regrettable" and that during his administration "such atrocities will be at a minimum."

Talmadge, back in the state after a Western vacation following his selection as the Democratic nominee for governor in the July 17 primary, in a formal statement said he was very sorry that the lynchings occurred in Gov. Ellis Arnall's administration.

"I sympathize with him and know that it did cause him chagrin and embarrassment," Talmadge said of Arnall, who defeated him four years ago and backed another candidate against him in this year's primary. Democratic nomination in Georgia is equivalent to election.

Arnall has offered a $10,000 reward on behalf of the state for apprehension of the group of white men who ruthlessly shot to death Roger Malcolm and his wife and George Dorsey and his wife as an apparent sequel to Malcolm's being arrested July 14 on a charge of stabbing his white employer.

In Washington, White House Press Secretary Charles G. Ross told a news conference President Truman has taken no direct hand in the lynching investigation.

A group of Negroes protesting the slayings was received by David K. Niles, presidential administrative assistant, after they paraded to focus attention on the incident. They were headed by Prof. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress.

A short time before, Edgar G. Brown, who said he headed the National Negro Council, walked out of the White House and said he had refused to see Niles "or any other underling." Brown explained that he wanted the president to dispatch troops into Georgia.

Subsequently Charles G. Ross, presidential press secretary, said he had no knowledge of any request from Brown for an appointment.

There were no announced developments in the search for the slayers being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Maj. William E. Spence, head of the GBI, said a solution would take long and careful police work and commented:

"The mystery is being unraveled."

Georgians Trap, Shoot Negroes In Lynching Act

Birmingham, Ala., News
July 26, 1946

No Members Of Band Identified; Four Left Dead At Roadside

MONROE, Ga., July 26—(AP)—A band of armed white men waylaid a white farmer and four Negroes on a secluded Northeast Georgia road late yesterday, Sheriff E. S. Gordon said today, and while holding the white man at gun point shot the Negroes to death.

27a

Coroner W. T. Brown, after an examination of the bodies, estimated that 60 shots had been fired into the bodies of the four Negroes. The hands of the two Negro men had been tied behind their backs. Their wives were the other victims.

One of the Negroes, Roger Malcolm, 27, the sheriff said had just been released from jail under $600 bond on charges of stabbing his employer, Barney Hester, a farmer.

The sheriff identified the other Negroes as Malcolm's wife, and George Dorsey and his wife.

The Negroes, riding in an automobile with Loy Harrison, a farmer, were en route from Monroe to Harrison's farm in adjoining Oconee County when they were waylaid at a bridge of the Apalachee River, the sheriff said.

INVESTIGATION ORDERED

WASHINGTON, July 26 — (AP)—Atty. Gen. Tom Clark's office announced today that he has ordered a "complete investigation" into the slayings of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., yesterday.

The announcement said that the inquiry would be carried out by the civil rights section of the Department of Justice.

Harrison, at a coroner's inquest last night, the sheriff said, testified that he could not identify any member of the band which waylaid him. The jury returned a verdict of death at the hands of unidentified parties.

The slayings, the sheriff said, occurred about eight miles east of Monroe, the county seat of Walton County, which is about 40 miles northeast of Atlanta.

Here is the story of the slayings as told by the sheriff after questioning Harrison:

Dorsey and his wife worked on Harrison's farm in Oconee County. Malcolm had worked for Hester, and Harrison, after Malcolm's release from jail had gone to Monroe to get him and his wife and take them back to jobs on the Harrison farm.

Harrison, driving the car with the Negroes in it, approached a wooden bridge over the river which divides Oconee and Walton Counties. A band of 20 to 25 men, armed with shotguns, pistols and rifles, stood in the road and ordered him to halt.

Harrison stopped the car at the entrance to the bridge, and the armed men ordered the two Negro men from the car and proceeded down a side road. Harrison and the two women were held at the automobile.

Then Harrison heard one of the men in the armed band remark that one of the Negro women had recognized him, and several of the men took the women from the car. Harrison then heard shots. After the shots, the mob dispersed, and Harrison went back two miles toward Monroe and called Sheriff Gordon from a country store.

* * *

THE SHERIFF SAID he went to the scene immediately and found the bodies in the bushes along the side road about 40 feet from where Harrison's car had been parked at the entrance to the bridge.

Sheriff Gordon said that without identification of any member of the armed band, he had gone as far as he could with his investigation. He said he had called in the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, a division of the state police, and that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had called him.

Church Asks Cooperation To Get Mob

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
July 29, 1946

Georgia Congregation Wants Aid In Solving Negro Massacre

By BENNETT DeLOACH

34a

MONROE, GA., July 28.—(AP)—A Monroe church congregation called today on local and Walter County authorities to cooperate with state officials in running down members of the armed band which lynched four Negroes near here July 25.

The First Methodist Church unanimously adopted a resolution to this effect at its morning church service. Bob Sams, chairman of the resolution committee, said he would ask all other churches in Monroe to adopt similar resolutions.

Condemns Outrage

The resolution, which also condemned "the outrage against humanity," came on the heels of a declaration by Maj. William E. Spence, head of the Georgia State police, that he was not getting cooperation in tracking down the lynching mob.

Spence said the "good people" in Walton County "won't talk about the mass murder" even though some of them "know who members of the gang were."

The four Negroes—Roger and Dorothy Malcolm and George and Mae Dorsey—were seized from the car of J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous white farmer, lined up abreast and killed by three volleys of fire from pistols and shotguns. Roger Malcolm was under $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his white employer.

The resolution adopted by the Methodist Church said:

"Be it known that the First Methodist Church of Monroe, Ga., goes on record as condemning the outrage against humanity which took place in Walton County, Ga., Thursday, July 25, 1946, and this church asks that local and county authorities cooperate with state authorities in bringing those guilty of this hideous crime to justice.

"We pledge our whole hearted cooperation."

As Major Spence and FBI agents probed leads as to who made up the band, three of the slain Negroes were buried this afternoon. George Dorsey and Dorothy Malcolm, brother and sister, were buried at rural Mt. Perry Church about 16 miles from the lynching scene. Mae Dorsey was buried here.

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
July ~~26~~ 28 1946

State Police Charge Lack of Cooperation In Slaying Probe

34a

Monroe, Ga., July 27.—(AP): The head of the Georgia state police told newsmen today, "we just can't cope" with the local situation in the investigtaion of the slaying of four negroes near here Thursday.

"The best people in town won't talk about this," the police head, Major William E. Spence, said. "They have an idea who it is.

When I get back to town (Atlanta) I'm going to ask the governor to appeal to every congressman to help pass federal legislation against mob violence."

Maor Spence met newsmen shortly after the release of a man whom he said fitted the description of the leader of the armed band which waylaid J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer, and the negroes on the banks of the Appalachee river.

Spence said Harrison failed to identify the man and said the leader of the mob was "20 pounds heavier".

The state police leader said he had several other leads, but added that he was getting no cooperation from local authorities.

"We haven't had the racial issue up before until recently," Spence said. "We've been out on things like this before, but never anything like this."

In Atlanta, Governor Ellis Arnall announced he was offering rewards totaling more than $10,000 for a solution of the mob killing of two negro farm hands and their wives.

Grimly, he said "I am directing the Georgia Bureau of investigation to keep its investigators in Walton county until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers."

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4 NEGROES SLAIN BY GEORGIA MOB

Wilmin N. C. Morning Sta
July 27, 1946

60-Shot Broadside Mows Victims Down 50 Miles From Atlanta

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 25.—(UP)—More than a score of white men, led by a six-foot-three giant wearing a black "Simon Legree" hat, dragged four terrified, pleading negroes from a car on a desolate Georgia road Thursday and lynched them with a 60-shot broadside from rifles, shotguns and pistols.

A horrified witness of the mass lynching was J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous Oconee county farmer. Harrison was driving the Negroes—two men and their wives—to his farm after posting $600 bond to release one of them from jail where he was held on charges of stabbing a former white employer.

Would Know Lynchers

Harrison vowed that he would recognize two of the lynches if he ever saw them again—the strapping leader of the band and an undersized youth in G I clothes who held a shotgun at his head while the Negroes were hustled into the woods and mowed down.

The U. S. Justice department joined the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and Walton County Sheriff E. S Gordon in an immediate investgiation of what Maj. W. E. Spence of the State Bureau of Investgiation said was "the worst thing that every happened in Georgia."

Party Waylaid

The four Negroes and Harrison were waylaid on the approach of a small plank bridge over the Appalachee river dividing Walton and Oconee counties. It was a wild, remote spot where the road was lined with swamp and lush undergrowth, about 10 miles east of Monroe and 50 miles northeast of Atlanta.

Harrison said the leader of the lynching party was a towering figure of a man, weighing at least 220 pounds. He wore a brown suit and a broad-brimmed black hat. Long black hair, mottled with gray, jutted out from his hat and he was deeply sunburned. He spoke like an educated man, giving crisp commands to his fellow lynchers and sounded 'like a retired doctor or general." the witness said.

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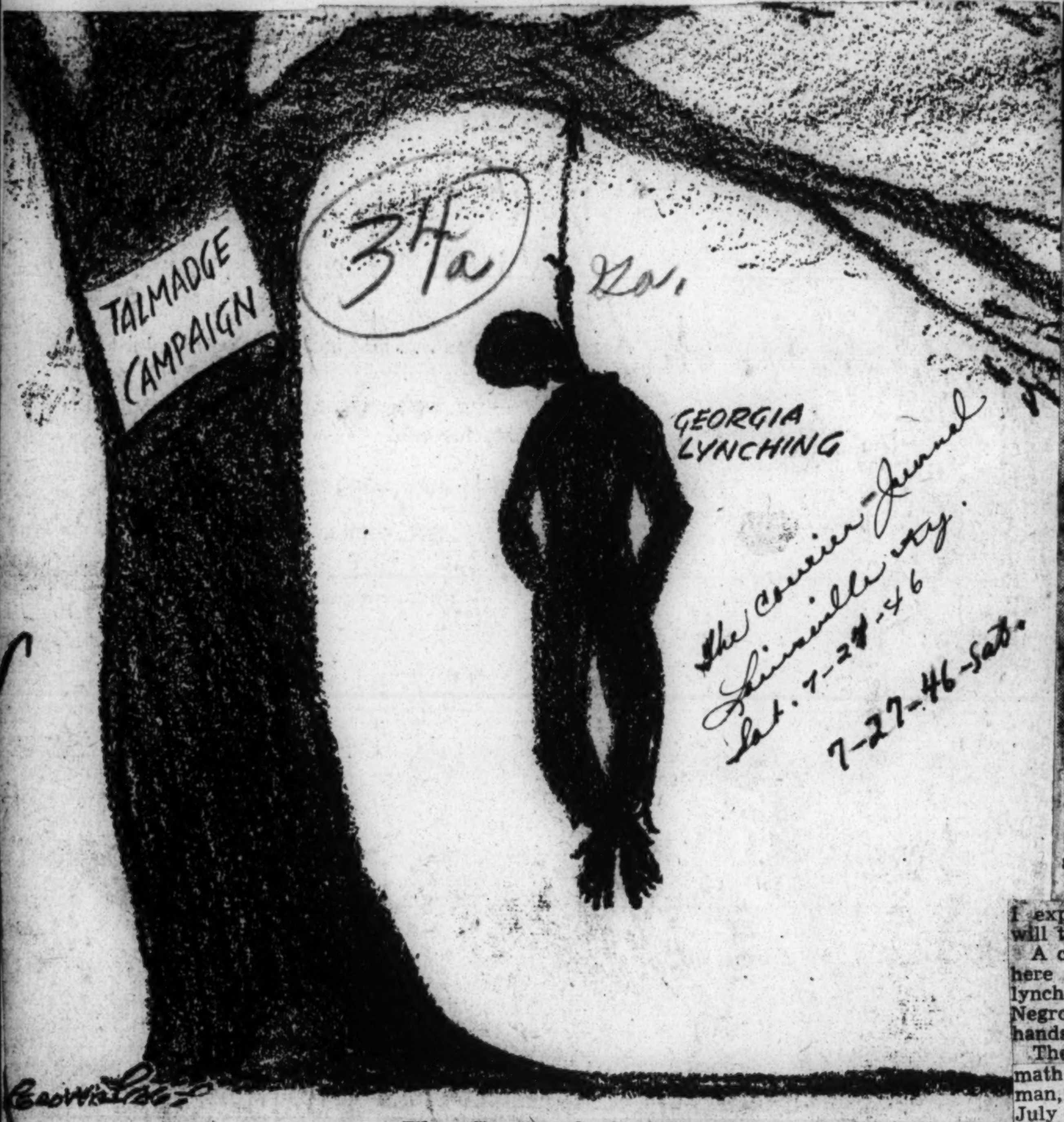


34a Ga.

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. Sat. 7-27-46

7-27-46-Sat.

The Fruit of the Tree

Georgia Mob Lynches 2 Negroes and Wives

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

Farmhands Taken From Car and Shot By 20 to 30 Whites; F.B.I. to Investigate

Sat. 7-27-46 From Wire Dispatches.

Monroe, Ga., July 26.—A mob of 20 to 30 white men led by a "tall, dignified-looking man" lynched four terrified Negroes with a 60-shot broadside from rifles, shotguns and pistols on a lonely swamp road late yesterday. 7-27-46-Sat.

34a

Victims of the mob were Roger Malcolm, 27, just released under bond on a charge of stabbing a farmer for whom he worked; his wife, and George Dorsey, about 25, and his wife. Dorsey was an overseas veteran with five years of service in the Army. The two women were sisters. Ga.

White Companion Unhurt.

The lynching was revealed by Loy Harrison, a white man who was taking the two Negro men and their wives to his farm in a car. He was held at gunpoint by the mob but was unharmed.

Attorney General Tom Clark's office in Washington announced that a complete investigation had been ordered into the multiple lynching. The announcement said the Federal Bureau of Investigation would carry out the inquiry for the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice.

Whites were aroused by the brutal slayings, and Maj. W. E. Spence, head of the State Bureau of Identification, characterized it as "the worst thing that ever happened in Georgia." Sat. 7-27-46

Dr. Samuel Green, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, said in Atlanta that "The Klan does not approve or countenance such an action. We have no Klan chapter in the Monroe area. I know that the Klan had nothing to do with these killings, although I expect Governor Ellis Arnall will try to pin it on us."

A coroner's jury was convened here last night soon after the lynching. Its verdict was that the Negroes met their deaths at the hands of "unknown persons."

The slayings came as the aftermath of the stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester, 22, a farmer, July 14. Hester is still in a hospital here. Malcolm had just been released from jail under $600 bond on a charge of stabbing Hester. Sat. 7-27-46

Harrison, a well-to-do farmer, was the only witness to testify at the inquest.

He said he had come to Monroe from his farm to get Malcolm, who was accompanied by the other three Negroes. Courier-Journal

On the way to Harrison's farm the mob waylaid them. Their questioning indicated they were seeking Malcolm. There was no indication why they took Dorsey out for execution. The women were killed because one of them recognized a member of the mob.

Dorsey's mother, Monia Williams, said her son had just been discharged from the service after five years in the Army, including overseas duty in Australia and North Africa. Both couples, she said, were married only recently.

Farmer Tells His Story.

Harrison gave this account of the lynching: Louisville, Ky.

With the Negroes in his car, he came to a wooden bridge spanning a river which divides Walton and Oconee Counties. An automobile across the road blocked his passage.

He stopped. Another car drove in behind him. Then another and another. A man who apparently assumed the role of leader of the mob, armed with rifles and shotguns, walked up and said: Courier-Journal

"We want Roger."

Harrison answered:

"That's not Roger. That's George."

Another mobster put a gun to Harrison's neck, and the leader said: Louisville, Ky.

"This is our party. You keep out of it. We ought to kill you, too." 7-27-46-Sat.

Men Taken From Car.

The Negro men were taken out of the car first and led down the side road. The women were held at the automobile. Then a member of the mob said one of the Negro women had recognized him.

34a Ga.

"Get these damned women, too," the mob leader shouted.

Several of the men then came back and dragged the shrieking women from the automobile.

Harrison said the "tall, dignified-looking" leader lined the Negroes up four abreast. Then to the count of "One, two, three" by the leader, three volleys were fired into the quartet.

"I didn't have anything but a pocket knife," Harrison related. "What could I do?"

Says Most Wore Khaki.

Harrison said:

"Most of the men were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me. The leader looked like a retired businessman. He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big, broad-brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good Florida suntan."

The nearest house to the scene was a mile and a half away. Harrison made his way two miles to a country store and called the sheriff.

The sheriff, E. S. Gordon, said that since Harrison could not identify any member of the band he had gone as far as he could with his investigation. He called in State police.

Coroner W. T. Brown said that at least 60 bullets were pumped into the bodies of the Negro farmhands and their wives. The grotesquely sprawled bodies were found in a clump of bushes beside the side road.

Hands of Men Bound.

The hands of the two men were bound behind them. The hands of the women were free. The upper part of their bodies was scarcely recognizable from the mass of bullet holes.

34a Ga.

Major Spence said the efficiency of the killers indicated the lynching "was a rehearsed affair." Coroner Brown said no empty shell cases had been found at the scene, indicating that the killers had been careful to remove such possible clews.

The condition of the bodies indicated the women might have been brutally beaten before they were shot. Each had a broken arm in addition to bullet wounds.

First In Nearly a Year.

Sat. 7-27-46

The lynching was the first in the nation in nearly a year and was the first multiple lynching since two 14-year-old Negro boys charged with attempted rape were hanged by a Mississippi mob in October, 1942. Louisville

Lynchings have steadily declined in the last decade. Last year only one lynching was listed by Tuskegee Institute and it was disputed whether the act, which occurred in Florida, was actually a lynching. Ky.

In 1933 there were 28 lynchings, in 11 states. By 1939 there were only three lynchings in two

The Courier-Journal Louisville Ky. Sat. 7-27-46

34a Ga.

Associated Press Wirephoto.

THIS IS THE ROPE with which a mob of white men bound the hands of two Negroes in Georgia before shooting them and their wives to death. Loy Harrison, left, a farmer, shows Oconee County Sheriff J. M. Bond how the rope was used. The Negroes were taken from Harrison's car.

states. In 1940 the figure rose to five, but dropped to four in 1941. In 1942 there were five again, in 1943 three and in 1944 two. Courier-Journal

Lynchings have taken a sharp downward curve in the last half century. The all-time high was in 1892, when 231 were recorded, according to the figures of the Southern Regional Council in Atlanta. 7-27-46-Sat. Louisville, Ky.

$1,000 Reward Put Up For Negroes' Slayers

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

New York, July 26 (U.P.)—The Civil Rights Congress tonight offered a $1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest, conviction and punishment of the persons who killed four Negro men and women near Monroe, Ga., yesterday. 7-27-46-Sat.

Talmadge Regretful

Courier-Journal

Cheyenne, Wyo., July 26 (U.P.)—Eugene Talmadge, Governor-elect of Georgia, said today—in reference to the lynching of four Negroes in this state—that "Things like that are to be regretted." 7-27-46-Sat. Louisville, Ky.

"A SOWER WENT FORTH TO SOW"

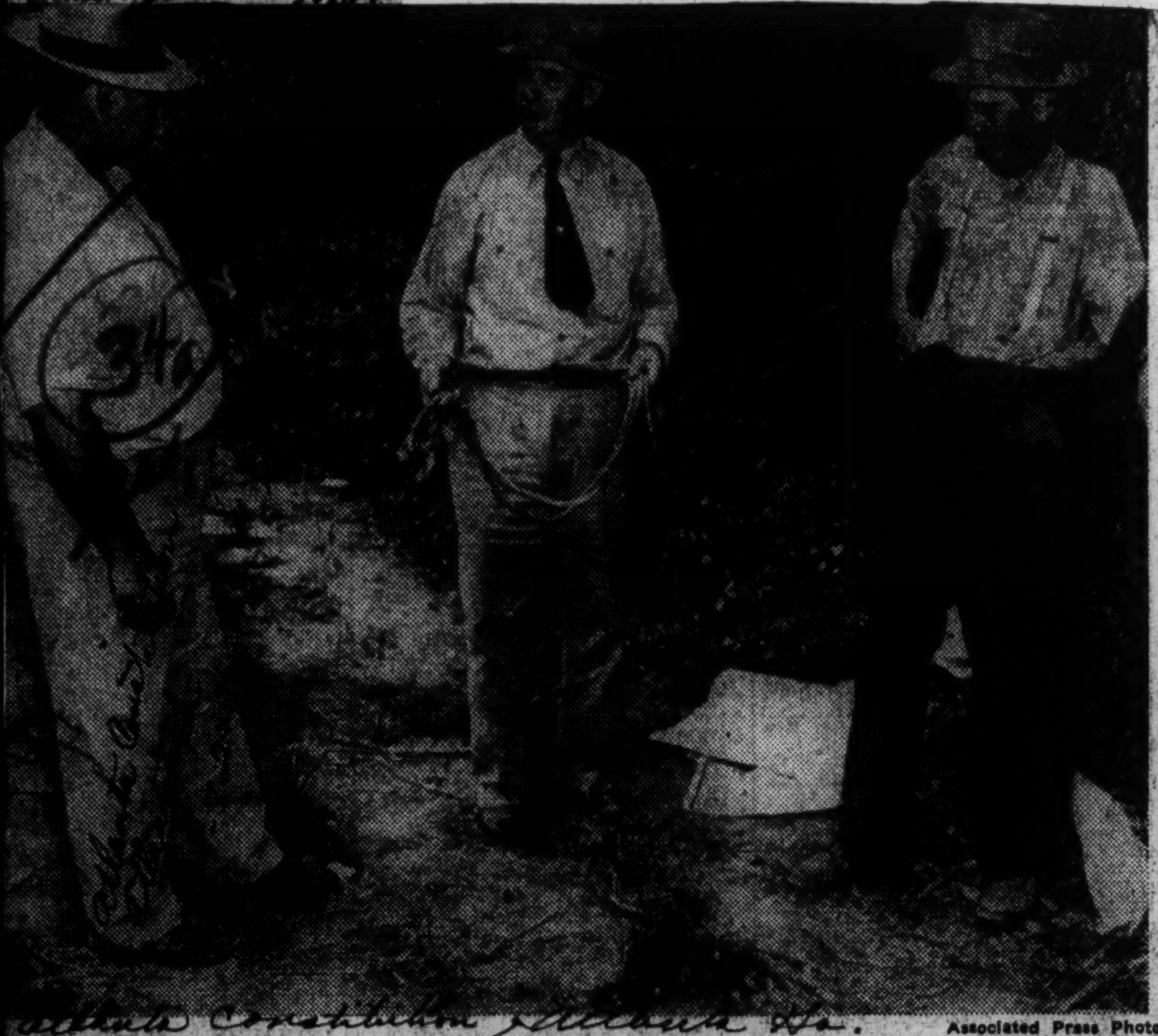
The Montgomery Advertiser

In view of recent developments, there is no occasion for surprise in the report of multiple lynchings in Georgia. Such is the natural and perhaps inevitable consequence of the ugly campaign which swept Mr. Talmadge into the Georgia governorship. Montgomery, Ala.

34a

The reported lynching of four Georgia Negroes is the first lynching anywhere in the nation for the year 1946, and the first multiple lynching since 1942. In October of that year, two 14-year-old Negro boys were hanged from a bridge at Quitman, Mississippi. Sat. 7.27-46 Advertiser

Whatever satisfaction may be found in lynchings, Georgia and Mississippi are welcome to Alabama's share. That is one distinction in which Alabama does not wish to have a part. 7-27-46-Sat.



Atlanta Constitution Atlanta Ga.

Associated Press Photo

SCENE OF SLAYINGS—Grimly, Loy Harrison (left) shows Sheriff J. M. Bond (center), of Oconee County, and Coroner W. T. Brown, of Newton County, where four Negroes were slain by a mob of white men near Monroe. Bond holds the rope which the mob used to bind together the hands of the two Negro men. Other victims were two Negro women. Sat 7. 27-46

U.S. Probes Monroe Lynching

Atlanta Constitution Atlanta Ga. Sat. 7-27-46

34a

MONROE, July 26—(AP)—The mob spirit has flared among a group of armed but unmasked white men here resulting in the bloody massacre of two Negro farm hands and their wives.

The grotesquely sprawled bodies of the victims—the Coroner said at least 60 bullets were pumped into them—were found in a clump of bushes beside a little used side road.

The hands of the two men were bound behind them. The hands of the women were free. The upper part of the bodies were scarcely recognizable from the mass of bullet holes. Constitution

NEW YORK, July 26—(UP)—The Civil Rights Congress Friday offered a $1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest, conviction and punishment of the persons who killed four Negro men and women near Monroe, Ga., Thursday.

The women were sisters.

The stark rural tragedy—first of its kind in Georgia since long before the war—occurred about eight miles from here late Thursday, but the story did not "leak out" until Friday. Monroe is 40 miles northeast of metropolitan Atlanta.

A few hours later Attorney General Tom Clark's office in Washington announced that a "complete investigation" had been ordered into the multiple lynching.

Without further elaboration, the announcement from Washington said that the Federal inquiry would be carried out by the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice. Sat. 7-27-46

The Negroes were shot by the mob which waylaid them while a white man, driving the farm hands to his farm in an adjoining county, was held at gunpoint but unharmed.

One of the Negroes was shot in the back and Coroner W. T. Brown said this indicated some members of the mob fired at him after he fell from the first fusillade.

The slaughter came as the aftermath of the stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester, 22, a farmer, on July 14. Hester is still in a hospital here. Sat. 7-27-46

OUT ON BAIL

One of the mob victims, Roger Malcolm, 27, had just been released from jail under $600 bond on charges of stabbing Hester, for whom he worked.

The other Negroes who fell at the fury of the mob were the young Negro farm hand's wife, and another young Negro couple, George Dorsey and his wife.

34a

Dorsey's mother, Monia Williams, said that her son had just been discharged from the service after five years in the Army, including overseas duty in Australia and North Africa. She received his discharge button in the mail this week, she added.

The details of the killings came from the white man, Loy Harrison, who was taking the Negroes to his farm. Harrison said the women nearly escaped the purpose of the mob.

The Nego men were taken out of the car first and led down the sideroad. The women were held at the automobile. Then a member of the mob said one of the Negro women had recognized him.

"Hold everything, go back and get them . . ." the mob leader shouted. Sat. 7-27-46

Several of the men then came back and dragged the shrieking women from the automobile. Then, a few moments later, Harrison heard the shots—many of them. The mob dispersed. Constitution

The nearest house to the scene was a mile and a half way. Harrison made his way two miles to a country store and called the sheriff. The sheriff came and they found the bodies in the bushes.

SHERIFF CALLS FBI

The sheriff, E. S. Gordon, said that since Harrison could not identify any member of the band he had gone as far as he could with his investigation. He called the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Harrison was the only witness to testify at the inquest, which resulted in a verdict of death at the hands of unknown parties. He testified to these details:

With the Negroes in his car, he came to a wooden bridge spanning a river which divides Walton and Oconee Counties. An automobile across the road blocked his passage. Atlanta, Ga.

He stopped. Another car drove in behind him. Then another and another. A man who apparently assumed the role of leader of the mob armed with rifles and shotguns, walked up and said:

"We want Roger."

Harrison answered: "That's not Roger. That's George."

Another mobster put a gun to Harrison's neck, and the leader said:

"This is our party. You keep out of it. We ought to kill you too."

Then the Negro men were dragged out of the car and bound with ropes and marched off. Then several members of the mob came back and dragged the women down the road. Sat. 7-27-46

FIRST THIS YEAR

The lynching was the first in the nation in nearly a year, and was the first multiple lynching since two 14-year-old Negro boys charged with attempted rape were hanged by a Mississippi mob in October, 1942.

Lynchings have steadily declined in the nation during the last decade. Last year only one lynching was listed by Tuskegee Institute and it was disputed whether the act, which occurred in Florida, was actually a lynching.

In 1933, there were 28 lynchings in 11 states. By 1939 there were only three lynchings in two states. In 1940, the figure rose to five, but dropped to four in 1941. In 1942, there were five again,, in 1943, three, and in 1944, two.

Lynchings have taken a sharp downward curve in the last half century. The all-time high was in 1892 when 231 were recorded. according to the figures of the Southern Regional Council in Atlanta.

This was the largest mass lynching since 10 Negroes were killed by a mob in Brooks County, Ga., on May 19, 1918, according to the records of Tuskegee Institute, in Alabama.

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The last lynching in Georgia, previous to these took place at Blakely, in Early County, May 6, 1941, according to the Atlanta office of the Southern Regional Council. The victim in that case was Robert Sapp, a Negro, accused of stealing from his employer. The records show that three white men set upon him and beat him so badly with a blunt instrument that he died some days later. Sat. 7-27-46

Sept. 8, 1940, six masked men took Austin Callaway, a Negro, from the jail at LaGrange and shot him to death. Callaway was accused of an attempted assault on a white woman. Constitution

Sheriff Gordon said there has been no previous racial trouble in Walton County and said there has not been a lynching in the county since his tenure as Sheriff began in 1921. Atlanta, Ga.

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Georgia Governor Offers Rewards in Lynching Case

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
July 28, 1946

34a

Monroe, Ga., July 27.—(U.P.)—Gov. Ellis Arnall today offered rewards up to $10,000 for the "mob of desperadoes" which lynched four Negroes near here Thursday, and a state official seeking the killers said he was "up against a stone wall because the people are afraid to talk."

Maj. W. E. Spence, head of the Georgia State Patrol, said after a 24-hour investigation that he would "wire every Georgia Congressman, or ask Governor Arnall to wire them," asking their support of federal anti-lynching legislation.

He will make the request, he said, "because under the conditions now existing in Georgia we cannot cope with mob violence."

Suspect Released.

Spence, annoyed at lack of progress in rounding up the lynchers, revealed that one suspect, a roadhouse employe, Lester Little, had been picked up for questioning but later released when the lone witness of the massacre, J. Loy Harrison, could not identify him as one of the slayers.

Spence said "we thought we had the man who perfectly fitted Harrison's description of the mob leader, but Harrison now says the man was 20 pounds heavier than Little."

Sheriff E. S. Gordon said Little once had been convicted of murdering the warden of neighboring Morgan County. Little, 71, served several years in prison for the crime.

Little is tall and rangy and weighs 220 pounds, fitting the description of the mob leader as given by Harrison yesterday. He is a former deputy sheriff of Morgan County.

Will Continue Search.

Spence said "we'll have to start all over again," but added he had several more leads to track down, and that at Arnall's orders the Patrol's State Bureau of Investigation would continue its relentless search for the killers.

Spence said "We've had cases like this before and could do all right with them, but that was before the race issue became so prominent."

He apparently referred to the recent gubernatorial primary in which Eugene Talmadge was returned to the governor's chair on a "white supremacy" platform.

Meanwhile Arnall denounced the mass murder as a "heinous crime" and ordered state officers to stay on the job until the case is solved.

Offers Rewards.

Arnall offered, in the state's name, rewards of $500 each for information leading to the arrest of any person in the mob, reported to number 20 to 30 men.

The FBI also was here, at the orders of U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark, to determine violations of civil rights.

Arnall said in Atlanta "this lawless gang must be brought to justice," and "the decent people of Georgia are humiliated."

He said the lynching was a "heinous crime," and "mass murder of innocent people." It was, he said, "disgraceful—legally and morally."

The four Negroes—two young men, one a veteran, and their wives—were taken, praying for mercy, from the automobile of J. Loy Harrison, Oconee County farmer, at dusk Thursday. Harrison was taking the quartet to his farm to work after having posted $600 bond for the release of one of the victims—Rogers Malcolm—from the Walton County jail here.

Malcolm had been arrested July 14 on charges of stabbing his employer, Barney Hester, Jr., when Hester intervened in a domestic squabble at Malcolm's home.

Hester's condition was serious in a hospital here. News of the lynching had been kept from him. He was not allowed to have visitors, except for his family.

No Connection.

Officers said they saw no connection between the lynching and the recent nomination of Eugene Talmadge as governor—an act which had been blamed with crystalizing anti-Negro sentiment in some sections of Georgia. They believed the lynching was an act of revenge for the stabbing of Hester.

This is the home county of Hoke O'Kelley, one of Talmadge's defeated opponents, but the county went for James V. Carmichael, Talmadge's strongest competitor, in the balloting.

Talmadge told reporters in Cheyenne, Wyo., the lynching was "an act to be regretted," but said "nothing can be gained by giving equal rights to someone with an artificial civilization that has been forced upon him only 150 years ago."

"I think it will be many, many years before we can give the Negro equal rights," Talmadge said.

LYNCHING CASE BRINGS HOT DEBATE IN SENATE

Washington, July 27.—(U.P.)—A brief but angry debate on race relations was touched off in the Senate today when Sen. William T. Knowland (R.-Calif.) deprecated the lynching of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga.

Knowland, urging Georgia State authorities and the Justice Department to take all possible action to bring the lynch mob to juctice, announced he was inserting in the Congressional Record a news dispatch about the lynching.

As he finished his remarks, a group of Southern senators rose to protest what they called an attempt by Knowland to "ridicule" the State of Georgia.

Sen. Richard B. Russell (D.-Ga.) said "There is something political" about crimes involving Negroes and white persons. He said that if the California Senator persisted in introducing accounts of Southern crimes into the Senate, he would be forced to do likewise with respect to murders in California.

Knowland replied that he would be the first to protest similar crimes if they occurred in his State.

Sen. Olin D. Johnston (D.-S.C.) then said Knowland had violated Senate rules by reflecting on the integrity of another state.

The Senate, Johnston said, perhaps should give some attention "to some of the things that happen in Hollywood."

Sen. William Langer (R.-N.D.) asked assurances from Knowland that the newspaper account did not reflect on Governor-Elect Gene Talmadge of Georgia who, he added, was not in the State when the crime occurred.

Knowland concluded the flurry of debate with the observation that no Senator "should remain silent when a mob of armed people murders in cold blood."

REWARDS AT $32,000 IN WALTON KILLINGS

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 1, 1946

Early Break in Case Seen Possible as Bounty Doubles, Police Push Investigation

34a

MONROE, Ga., Aug. 1.—An early break in the slaying of two Negro farmhands and their wives here a week ago loomed as a possibility Thursday as rewards for the killers were doubled overnight, now totaling $32,000.

Two organizations, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the C. I. O. National Maritime Union have offered rewards of $10,000 and $5,000, respectively, for the arrest and conviction of the mob of approximately 20 men who waylaid an Oconee County plantation owner and seized the Negroes from his automobile.

Previously, Governor Ellis Arnall had announced the State would pay $500 for each member of the mob and two other organizations had increased the reward by $3,000.

Another $2,000 was offered Thursday by the Chicago Defender, a Negro newspaper, which also pledged its entire facilities to law enforcement officers in tracking down the killers.

Lidice Mentioned

The newspaper said it was determined to "fight relentlessly to end fascism for the Negro in America and to make Monroe, Georgia, as significant in America's fight against Ku Klux Klanism as Lidice, Czechoslovakia, was in the recent world victory against Nazism and Japanese tyranny."

Meanwhile, Major William E. Spence, Georgia's director of public safety, revealed the forces of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation are working "in complete harmony" to unravel the mystery. Each is keeping the other informed of its progress, he said, although he refused to speculate on the prospects of an early solution.

However, an air of expectancy obviously hung over the entire community and investigators were probing deeply into the horror.

It was rumored the FBI had augmented its 12-man investigative staff with 25 additional special agents. Major Spence has assigned six of the seven G. B. I. investigators to the case.

The Illinois House of Representatives Wednesday adopted a resolution condemning the murders and urged the Georgia Legislature to enact an anti-lynching law similar to the Illinois statute.

At nearby University of Georgia, the Demosthenian Literary Society adopted by a 12-5 vote a resolution charging "the recent preaching of false fears of the loss of white supremacy and the recent inciting of racial hatred by rabid elements . . . are one of the basic causes of the Walton County massacre" and called for the death penalty for "all the villains participating in the brutal murders."

A second resolution, adopted 14-4, placed the society on record as supporting "any candidate standing for decency and progressiveness and honesty in government in the coming November general election against the Democratic Party's candidate, Eugene Talmadge."

Hester Interviewed

The first interview with 29-year-old Barnett Hester Jr., whose stabbing by one of the victims on July 14 has been generally held responsible for the mob's action, was obtained by Ruth Brigham, International News Service correspondent. She quoted him as saying he did not learn of the lynching until several days afterward, because "I was too sick to be told."

He corroborated earlier reports that he was attempting to halt an altercation between Roger Malcolm and his wife, two of the mob victims, when the Negro farmhand plunged a knife into his abdomen.

The Malcolms and George Dorsey and his wife were forced from the automobile of J. Loy Harrison, prosperous Oconee County farmer, late on the afternoon of July 25, and shot to death by an unmasked mob. The slaying occurred on the banks of the Appalachee River, a short distance from a little-used rural road leading from the Monroe-Athens highway to the home of Mr. Harrison.

Presbyterian Women Deplore Monroe Slayings

MONTREAT, N. C., Aug. 1.—A group of women representing Presbyterian churches in Georgia, Thursday protested to Governor Ellis Arnall the lynching last week of four negroes near Monroe.

"We are deeply distressed over the recent racial tragedy," they wrote the chief executive. "We wish to assure you individually of our prayerful support in your efforts . . . to see that speedy justice is done for all concerned, so that a righteous peace may prevail."

Lynching Appears 'Rehearsed' Says Georgia Official

Columbia, S. C. Record
July 27, 1946

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 27—(AP)—A suggestion that the bloody massacre of four Negroes near here was a "rehearsed affair" came today from the head of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Major William E. Spence of the GBI, said:

"It looks like it was a rehearsed affair. It looks like it might have been planned since the Negro was first confined to jail."

He referred to Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. Malcolm, his wife, and George Dorsey and his wife were the mob's victims.

Although an announcement from Washington said the Federal Bureau of Investigation would investigate the case for the civil rights section of the justice department, an assistant district attorney said:

"So far it seems to be a state case."

The attorney, Jack Gautier of Macon, said he came here to try to determine if there had been any violation of civil rights covered by federal statute.

The only comment on the lynching to come from Eugene Talmadge, recently nominated for a fourth term as Georgia's governor on a "white supremacy" platform, was that "such incidents are to be regretted."

Talmadge is vacationing in Cheyenne, Wyo.

Rep. Marcantonio (AL-NY), asked President Truman for "prompt" federal intervention.

In a telegram to Truman, Marcantonio sail "Unless immediate government action is taken there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbos and Talmadges."

The details of the lynching was related by Roy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was held at gun point by the mob. He was taking the four Negroes to his farm to work after getting Malcolm out on bond.

The lynching was the first in the South in a year. In recent years lynchings have steadily declined almost to the vanishing point. There was only one in 1945, and two the year before.

BULLETIN

ATLANTA, July 27—(AP)—Governor Ellis Arnall today offered rewards totalling more than $10,000 for solution of the mob slaying in Walton county of two Negro farm hands and their wives.

7450

Georgia Police Chief Reports Lynching Probe Curbed by Nonco-operation of Townspeople

Time-Dispatch

34a

MONROE, GA., July 27—(AP)—The head of the Georgia State police told newsmen today that he had been hampered in his investigation of the massacre of four Negroes near here Thursday, because "the best people in town won't talk about this."

"They have an idea who it is," the police head, Major William E. Spence said. "We've been out on things like this before, but never anything like this." Sun 7-28-46

"When I get back to town (Atlanta), I'm going to ask the Governor to appeal to every Congressman to help pass Federal legislation against mob violence."

Major Spence met newsmen shortly after the release of a man, who he said fitted the description of the leader of the armed band which waylaid J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer, and the Negroes on the banks of the Appalachee River. Richmond

Spence said Harrison failed to identify the man, and said the leader of the mob was "20 pounds heavier." Virginia

The State police leader said he had several other leads, but added that he was getting no co-operation from local authorities.

In Atlanta, Governor Ellis Arnall announced he was offering rewards totaling more than $10,000 for a solution of the mob killing of two Negro farm hands and their wives.

Grimly, he said, "I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton County until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers." Sun. 7-28-46

Arnall then discussed the case off the record.

At Cheyenne, Wyo., where he is vacationing, Talmadge said last night that he had barely had time to read accounts of the shooting. "I think," he said, "such incidents are to be regretted." Beyond that he had no further comment.

Meanwhile, preparations for the burial of Roger Malcolm, his wife, George Dorsey and his wife, victims of the lynching, were attracting scores of visitors to the funeral parlor in which their bodies lie. Sun 7-28-46

Shortly after the shooting was made public yesterday, agents of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation swarmed into the county. In the course of routine work, bullets were taken from the bodies for checking by ballistic experts.

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Meanwhile, there were expressions of public concern over the lynchings.

[illegible] Dragon Samuel Green of [illegible] said his organization [illegible] with the mob action, but that he expected Arnall "will try to pin it on us." Richmond

Green also declared "we have no Klan chapter in Monroe. I know the Klan had nothing to do with the killings." Virginia

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through Secretary Walter White in New York, charged in a telegram to Attorney-General Tom Clark that reports of actions of officials in Walton County indicated they had knowledge lynchings were to take place.

To this charge, Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton County replied, "You just tell 'em it's a damn lie. I don't care who said it."

In Birmingham, Ala., the Southern Negro Youth Congress wrote United States Attorney-General Tom Clark asking that martial law be declared and a house-to-house search conducted for the slayers.

Asks Prompt Action

Representative Marcantonio (AL-N. Y.) asked President Truman for "prompt Federal intervention. In a telegram, the New York Congressman said "unless immediate government action is taken, there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbos and Talmadges." Sun 7-28-46

The Maryland conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People also asked Truman to intervene.

The Civil Rights Congress in New York was reported to have offered a $1,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of the guilty.

Major William E. Spence of the GBI (which is patterned after the FBI), after a day and night of intense work suggested that the bloody murders were a "rehearsed affair."

Said Spence, "It looks like it was a rehearsed affair. It looks like it might have been planned since the Negro was first confined to jail."

The GBI head referred to Roger Malcolm, 27, who had been released on a $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, Barney Hester. Sun. 7-28-46

The other victims of the mob were Malcolm's wife, George Dorsey and his wife.

Only witness to the multiple slaying was Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer in whose car the Negroes were riding.

Harrison said he was taking the Negroes to his farm to work after obtaining Malcolm's release on bond. Richmond

The Walton County farmer said a band of 20 armed and unmasked men waylaid the group as his car approached a bridge. The Negro men, Harrison related, were taken from the car first and their arms bound. Virginia

When one of the women suddenly remarked that she knew one of the men, the mob returned and ordered them to accompany their husbands.

Spence Indicates Progress In Mass Lynching Case

constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

Sun. 7-28-46

Constitution State News Service.

MONROE, July 29—Maj. William E. Spence, of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, conducting the probe into the mass slaying of four Negroes here last week by a band of white men, indicated today he is making progress in solving the case.

34a

"The mystery is being unraveled," he said, but declined comment on reports he had found one man who knew most of the details and was willing to talk.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation also is helping in the investigation.

In Washington, White House Press Secretary Charles G. Ross told a news conference President Truman has taken no direct hand in the lynching investigation.

A group of Negroes protesting the slayings was received by David K. Niles, Presidential Administrative Assistant, after they paraded to focus attention on the incident. They were headed by Prof. Max Yeargan, President of the National Negro Congress.

A short time before, Edgar G. Brown, who said he headed the National Negro Council, walked out of the White House and said he had refused to see Niles "or any other underling." Brown explained he wanted the President to dispatch troops into Georgia.

Subsequently, Ross said he had no knowledge of any request from Brown for an appointment.

In Atlanta, Gov. Arnall issued this statement:

"I am asking the State and local officials to redouble their efforts to ferret out the members of the mob who lynched the four Negroes in Walton County.

"The Federal Government is rendering full co-operation in the search. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has agents at work on the case. Sun. 7-28-46

"Rewards now total $12,500 for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the gang that committed the mass murders and massacre.

"Civilization is incensed over this atrocity. The guilty parties must be brought to justice."

Later in the day, P. T. McCutcheon, Executive Secretary to Gov. Arnall, announced that the reward had been increased by $1,100.

Columbia, S. C., State

July 29, 1946.

Church Takes Lead in Ga.

Lynch Probe

34a

Monroe, Ga., July 28—(AP)—Monroe church congregation calle today on local and Walton count authorities to cooperate with sta officials in running down membe of the armed band which lynche four Negroes near here July 25.

The First Methodist churc unanimously adopted a resolutio to this effect at its morning churc service. Bob Sams, chairman of tl resolution committee, said he wou ask all other churches in Monro to adopt similar resolutions.

The resolution, which also co demned "the outrage against h manity," came on the heels of declaration by Maj. William E. Spence, head of the Georgia state police, that he was not getting co-operation in tracking down the lynching mob.

Spence said the "good people" in Walton county "won't talk about the mass murder" even though some of them "know who members of the gang were."

The four Negroes—Roger and Dorothy Malcolm and George and Mae Dorsey—were seized from the car of J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous white farmer, lined up abreast and killed by three volleys of fire from pistols and shotguns. Roger Malcolm was under $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his white employer.

The resolution adopted by the Methodist church said:

"Be it known that the First Methodist church of Monroe, Georgia, goes on record as condemning the outrage against humanity which took place in Walton county, Georgia, Thursday, July 25, 1946, and this church asks that local and county authorities cooperate with state authorities in bringing those guilty of this hideous crime to justice.

"We pledge our whole hearted co-operation."

As Major Spence and FBI agents probed leads as to who made up the band, three of the slain Negroes were buried this afternoon. George Dorsey and Dorothy Malcolm, brother and sister, were buried at rural Mt. Perry church about 16 miles from the lynching scene. Mae Dorsey was buried here.

Mob Lynches 4 Negroes On Georgia Back Road

Times-Dispatch

34a

MONROE, GA., July 26—(AP)—The bloody massacre of two young Negro farm hands and their wives yesterday by an armed and unmasked band of white men brought the promise of a Federal investigation today.

The ghastly details of the multiple lynching were told by Loy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was taking the Negroes to his farm and who was held at gun point by the mob. Sat 7-27-46

Harrison had come to Monroe from his farm to get Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. He was accompanied by the three other Negroes, Malcolm's wife and George Dorsey and his wife. Richmond

The white man and the four Negroes were en route back home in a car when they were waylaid by the mob. Their questioning indicated they were seeking Malcolm. There was no indication why they also took Dorsey out for execution. The women were killed because one of them recognized a member of the mob.

Harrison said the band, led by a "tall, dignified looking white man" lined the Negroes up four abreast, and then to the count of "one, two, three" by the leader, three volleys were fired into the quartet. Sat 7-27-46

"I didn't have anything but a pocket knife," Harrison related. "What could I do?"

Harrison said "most of the men were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me. The leader looked like a retired businessman. He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big, broad-brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good Florida suntan." Richmond

It was the first lynching of more than one person in Georgia since 1918. Ten Negroes were lynched in Brooks County then. There have been nine instances of multiple lynchings in the State since 1892. Virginia

The coroner said that at least 60 bullets were pumped into the bodies of the Negro farm hands and their wives. The grotesquely sprawled bodies were found in a clump of bushes beside a little-used side road. Sat 7-27-46

34a

The hands of the two men were bound behind them. The hands of the women were free. The upper part of the bodies were scarcely recognizable from the mass of bullet holes.

The women were sisters.

The stark rural tragedy occurred about eight miles from here late yesterday, but the story did not "leak out" until today. Monroe is 40 miles northeast of metropolitan Atlanta. Va.

A few hours later Attorney-General Tom Clark's office in Washington announced that a "complete investigation" had been ordered into the multiple lynching. Richmond

Without further elaboration, the announcement from Washington said that the Federal inquiry would be carried out by the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice.

White Man Unharmed

The Negroes were shot by the mob which waylaid them while a white man, driving the farm hands to his farm in an adjoining county, was held at gun point but unharmed.

One of the Negroes was shot in the back and Coroner W. T. Brown said that this indicated some member of the mob fired at him after he fell from the first fusilade. Virginia

The slaughter came as the aftermath of the stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester, 22, a farmer, on July 14. Hester is still in a hospital here.

One of the mob victims, Roger Malcolm, 27, had just been released from jail under $600 bond on charges of stabbing Hester, for whom he worked.

The other Negroes who fell at the cold, deliberate fury of the mob were the young Negro farm hand's wife, and another young Negro couple, George Dorsey and his wife.

Dorsey's mother, Monia Williams, said that her son had just been discharged from the service after five years in the Army, including overseas duty in Australia and North Africa. She received his discharge button in the mail this week, she added. Sat 7-27-46

Both the young couples, she said, had married recently.

The details of the killings came from the white man, Loy Harrison, who was taking them to his farm. Harrison said that the women nearly escaped the purpose of the mob.

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Talmadge Pledges Minimum Of Atrocities, Regrets Lynching

Times-Dispatch

34a

MONROE, GA., July 29—(AP)—Eugene Talmadge, who'll take over as Georgia's Governor in January, said today the mass lynching of four Negroes here last week was "regrettable," and that during his administration "such atrocities will be at a minimum."

Talmadge, back in the State after a Western vacation following his selection as the Democratic nominee for Governor in the July 1 primary, in a formal statement, said he was very sorry that the lynchings occurred in Governor Ellis Arnall's administration.

Jul. 7-30-46

"I sympathize with him, and know that it did cause him chagrin and embarrassment," Talmadge said of Arnall, who defeated him four years ago and backed another candidate against him in this year's primary. Democratic nomination in Georgia is equivalent to election.

Arnall has offered a $10,000 reward on behalf of the State for apprehension of the group of white men who ruthlessly shot to death Roger Malcom and his wife and George Dorsey and his wife as an apparent sequel to Malcom's being arrested July 14 on a charge of stabbing his white employer.

In Washington White House Press Secretary Charles G. Ross told a news conference President Truman has taken no direct hand in the lynching investigation.

Richmond

Parade in Protest

A group of Negroes protesting the slayings was received by David K. Niles, presidential administrative assistant, after they paraded to focus attention on the incident. They were headed by Professor Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress.

A short time before, Edgar G. Brown, who said he headed the National Negro Council, walked out of the White House, and said he had refused to see Niles "or any other underling." Brown explained that he wanted the President to dispatch troops into Georgia.

Virginia

Subsequently, Charles G. Ross, presidential press secretary, said he had no knowledge of any request from Brown for an appointment.

There were no announced developments in the search for the slayers being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Major William E. Spence, head of the GBI, said a solution would take long and careful police work and commented:

"The mystery is being unraveled."

Jul. 7-30-46

Atrocity "Incenses"

Governor Arnall said today that civilization is incensed over this [illegible] authorities to "redouble your efforts to ferret out the mob."

Funeral services for Malcolm were held this afternoon. The other three were buried yesterday.

Major Spence said today that in a statement Saturday he had not meant to imply that local law enforcement authorities were not co-operating in the investigation. He said what he meant was that co-operation was not forthcoming from "town people," who he said he thought might have information about the slayings.

Letter To The Editor

Daily World Atlanta, Ga

Sat 8-3-46

34a

APPRECIATES EFFORTS TO APPREHEND LYNCHERS

Editor, Atlanta Daily World:

The following statement is being sent to: The Atlanta Daily World, The Atlanta Constitution, Governor Ellis Arnall, and to President Truman.

'The Atlanta Metropolitan Council of Negro Women, affiliated with the National Council of Negro Women, the National Council of Women of U. S. Inc., and the International Council of Women of the World wish to express their deep gratitude and sincere appreciation for the human, civilized, and Christlike attitude which you are showing and the untiring efforts which you are putting forth in the Walton County lynchings. We, the Atlanta Council of Negro Women, feel bereaved, stunned and utterly helpless.

The press editorials, the statements and expressions of the churches and right thinking individuals showing that Christ's teachings of goodwill, brotherhood and peace still live in spite of the dire orgies which make it seem otherwise, have encouraged and helped us.

Our voices join the millions of other voices of justice loving people in protesting this dastard atrocity and urging that your efforts not stop until justice is meted out to the guilty parties. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and all that is decent, right and human we beseech you and the good people of our state and our nation to use their mind and efforts to the utmost to assure Negro citizens and other helpless people to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

LILLIAN B. GARNETT, Pres.
Atlanta Metropolitan Council
of Negro Women

Atlanta.

Unidentified Suspect Held By Police In Lynching of 4 Georgia Negroes

The Courier Journal, ~~Ft~~ Louisville, Ky.

34a

Investigator Says Case Is Breaking

Mon 7-29-46 Ga.

By TARLETON COLLIER.

Staff Correspondent, The Courier-Journal

Monroe, Ga., July 28.—There was a rift today in the cloud of mystery over the massacre of four Negroes by a well-drilled mob eight miles from here Thursday. Maj. W. E. Spence of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation said a man had been taken into custody, and the case was breaking.

In this the usual pattern of investigation after lynchings was changed. Usually the silence of terror or inactivity seals the crime. But this time Governor Arnall's offer of a $10,000 reward, and his direction to the G.B.I. to see the case through are believed to be bringing action.

Major Spence refused to identify the person held, or to discuss the evidence on which he acted. However, the announcement was taken as confirming suspicion that members of the mob were known to many people of the community and Walton County.

Meanwhile, circumstances tightened the link between the slaughter of the four young Negroes—two men and their wives, both women under 20—and the feeling aroused by use of the race issue in the political campaign which ended July 17 in Eugene Talmadge's nomination for Governor. Only one of the victims had been connected with any offense. He was Roger Malcolm, who had cut his employer, Barnye Hester, 22, a white farmer.

2 Other Incidents Occur.

This is the third incident of violence since the election and Talmadge's demand to keep Negroes from voting in Taylor County.

Across the state, a Negro war veteran was shot to death the day after the election. The man killed, Macio Snipes, was the only Negro to vote in his election district. He was called from his home by four white men in an automobile and riddled with bullets. Mon. 7-29-46

The man named by Snipes before he died as his assailant was cleared by a coroner's jury with a verdict that he fired in self-defense. He said he called on Snipes to pay a debt, that the Negro had drawn a knife and that he shot to protect himself.

Editor Forced to Apologize.

In Thomaston, the editor of the local newspaper, J. E. Hardy, was forced by a mob to apologize publicly for an editorial laying the vote for Talmadge to ignorance and prejudice.

While outwardly Monroe and Walton County have been calm since the shooting, undertones of restlessness become plainer. A member of the Negro community to whom I talked today said his neighbors were moved by fears that would drive many of them from the county, nd that also would build fires of revenge for the wanton killing.

Information Leak Probed.

Mon. 7-29-46

34a

The investigation by Major Spence's G.B.I. includes, among other things, an inquiry into an apparent leak of information from the jail or Courthouse about arrangements for release on bail of Roger Malcolm in the 3 hours between the time the arrangements were made by Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer of Oconee County, and the latter's departure for home with Malcolm, his wife, and the other Negroes. There was time enough for the mob apparently to rehearse to military precision its business to lay the ambush.

Ga.

Courier Journal

Families Fail to Attend Lynched Negroes' Funeral

Louisville, Ky.

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Mount Perry Cemetery, Ga., July 28.—George Dorsey and his sister, Mrs. Roger Malcolm, two of the four Negroes killed by a mob Thursday, were buried here today, but close relatives failed to appear for the services. Friends said they believed the family members were afraid to attend.

For 2 hours Negro morticians and white and Negro reporters searched the countryside for the family, delaying the services.

"They ain't home. They ain't nowhere. They hid out," one Negro said at the funeral.

Distant Cousin Attends.

A distant cousin was the closest relative of the dead pair to attend. Mon. 7-29-46

"I was going to tough it out and come here to this church and they could try to stop me if they wanted," she said, "but I was coming on anyhow."

At the end of the service Dorsey's uncle arrived. He said Loy Harrison, the farmer from whose car the four Negroes were taken and shot, had arranged for Dorsey's mother to attend the funeral but she had "disappeared."

Funeral services for Dorsey's wife were held later in the afternoon. Arrangements have not been completed for Malcolm's burial.

Strong Resentment Is Expressed Over Article Written By Atlanta Newsman.

Monroe, Ga., News
Aug. 21, 1946

34a

In a forceful charge to the grand jury for the August term of Walton Superior Court, Judge Henry H. West scored Southern newspapers unfairness and distortion of facts in news articles dealing with the recent killing of four Negroes near the Oconee County line.

Judge West expressed especially resentment over an article written by Ralph Jones, Atlanta Constitution columnist. "I resent his unfair vent of spleen against the good people of this county," Judge West said.

Ga.

He asked that Washington officials and the governor of Georgia refrain from seeking publicity by making a spectacular announcement if and when the case is solved, leaving it to the sheriff of Walton county or the solicitor-general's office to divulge any such announcement. To that end, Judge West said that he had requested the co-operation of FBI officials and Major William Spence, head of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Text of Judge West's charge to the jurors, dealing with the killings, was as follows:

Grand Jury a horrible crime has occurred in this county. No one will attempt to justify or excuse this crime, but we do deplore the nationwide unfair publicity given to Monroe, Walton county and the people of this county. We, of course, expected nothing else of the northern press, some of which on all occasion take great delight in discrediting the South, but we did not expect our southern papers to be unfair and to distort the facts—to paint word pictures of criticism. I especially resent an article appearing in the Atlanta Constitution by one Ralph Jones. I have never seen Jones and do not know him personally but from the looks of his picture would say he is an eternal grouch—I resent his unfair vent of spleen against the good people of this county.

"The people of this county do not condone this crime. When it is solved the criminals will be brought before the bar of justice and given speedy and impartial trials. This trial will be before Walton County jurors. I here and now repeat that which I have often said, no county in Georgia or the nation has a higher type of juror than we have here in Walton.

"I do hope however when this crime is solved that no official in Washington, in order to gain publicity will make any announcement relative thereto. I hope the Governor of this State will likewise refrain from seeking publicity. I have expressed a wish to the officer in charge of the FBI and to Major Spence of the GBI, that if and when the crime is solved that the announcement will be made through the Sheriff's office or the Solicitor-General's office.

licity."

George C. Williams was elected foreman of the grand jury and after hearing Judge West's charge, the jurors adjourned to the hearing of civil cases, including a large number of divorce cases. The August term is expected to continue for several more days and next Monday morning it is expected that criminal cases will be tried.

The court room was filled Monday morning to hear the Judge's charge to the grand jury, described by many as the best ever delivered here.

Blood of Lynched Negroes Stains Georgia Pines; Sheriff Says Mob Shouldn't Have Killed Women

Courier Journal

Louisville, Ky.

'Gene Told Us,' Says Observer In Walton County

Sun. 7-28-46

By TARLETON COLLIER

Staff Correspondent, The Courier-Journal

34a

Monroe, Ga., July 27.—The placid stream of Saturday's business, a sauntering, steady shuffle, fills this rural county seat. As black and white mingle in old custom, nothing betrays the depths below. You have to know that Negroes like this in the South have always lived in tension, if you are to see the vague signs of tension now become very brittle.

Eight miles away, in a dim path beside a lonely road, pine needles are stained with the blood, still fresh, of the two Negro men and their young wives who were shot down Thursday in a massacre as cold and calculated as anything in the Nazi record. Peace was shattered by the guns of a well-drilled firing squad which may be hard to restore.

This reporter was talking to J. S. Gordon, sheriff of Walton County, on a sidewalk opposite the Courthouse. Suddenly there was a figure beside us. A large man was talking.

Talmadge Carried County.

"This thing's got to be done to keep Mister Nigger in his place," he said. "Since the court said he could vote, there ain't been any holding him. I just come from Atlanta, and 98 per cent of the policemen and 100 per cent of the streetcar men voted for Talmadge, because they come in contact with the nigger and know what he's doing. Gene told us what was happening, and what he was going to do about it. I'm sure proud he was elected."

"They hadn't ought to killed the two women," Sheriff Gordon said mildly, and edged away.

Talmadge carried the county, losing its two towns but carrying every rural district by a heavy margin. Sun. 7-28-46

Three days before the primary election came the incident which was the beginning of the tragedy. Barney Hester, a young farmer, was stabbed by Roger Malcolm, a Negro tenant, when he tried to stop a quarrel between Malcolm and the latter's wife.

[illegible]'s attack on a white man always brings rumblings of [illegible] one lounger [illegible] ing to vote put the finishing touches to it."

Released On Small Bail.

Hester was seriously hurt, but is recovering. Malcolm was arrested at once and brought here to jail. His wife went home to her mother, a hand on the farm of Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer just across the Appalachee River in Oconee County.

There lived also a brother-in-law, George Dorsey, and his wife. Talk of getting Malcolm out of jail began, and Harrison, who needed another hand sorely in the harvest season coming on, thought favorably of it, according to his story. He took Malcolm's wife and the Dorseys to Monroe when he went there to see about bailing Malcolm out.

One of the several unusual circumstances of the case occurred then. Sheriff Gordon agreed to release Malcolm on $600 bail, an extraordinarily small sum for the freedom of a Negro who had dangerously wounded a white man. Harrison was a reliable farmer, but Hester still was in a critical condition.

Another unexplained detail was how the word of Malcolm's release got about. Harrison said afterward he hadn't said anything about his plans—"I mind my own business," he allowed. The Negroes, visiting Monroe friends while waiting, talked about it. Anyhow, after several hours, he started off with the four Negroes in his automobile by a winding clay road through field and woodland. Sun. 7-28-46

Car Parked On Bridge.

Eight miles from Monroe he came to a shaky bridge of loose planks over the muddy Appalachee River, which divides Walton from Oconee County. Over the narrow span only one automobile can move at a time. Harrison says he saw his way blocked by a car parked in the middle of the bridge.

As he stopped, inquiring, men came toward him. A car which had been following him from Monroe stopped close behind him. Men emerged from the ambush of thickets on the river bank. All were armed.

"There's the man we want," one said to Malcolm. They dragged the Negro from the car, and then said to Dorsey, "We want you, Charlie."

"That's not Charlie," Harrison said he told them. "It's George Dorsey." One of the men snarled at him, "Keep out of this. It ain't your show." They deftly tied the two men's hands and marched them down a path into the river bottom. The women started screaming, cursing and begging. One of them, Harrison said afterward, called a name, apparently that of one of the ambushers. Sun. 7-28-46

Instantly a man who was definitely in charge of operations wheeled toward the automobile. Harrison describes him as a tall, well-dressed, elderly man "who looked like a retired businessman." His leadership was precise and of a military tone. The others obeyed his swift commands automatically from first to last. That the affair had been organized and every movement drilled was evident at all times, Harrison said. The preparation had been studied.

Women Dragged From Car.

"You—and you—and you—and you," the leader said, pointing to four of his men, calling no names, "get these two——"

The four men moved to the car and dragged out the screaming women. It was all in good daylight, about 5:30 in the afternoon. The two young wives screamed and fought, but they were dragged out. Later, an examination of their bodies showed their arms to have been broken, at elbows or shoulders, by the butts of guns, pounded to break their hold on the doors.

Harrison was held by a gun in the hands of a young fellow dressed in G. I. clothes—even to service cap. The four Negroes were led about 100 feet from the road. In this desolate spot, at the valley of the river to which hills drop from high land on both sides, there is no house within more than half a mile. Harrison watched out of the corner of his eye, he said, half a glance fixed on the young man in uniform—until the Negroes were hidden from view by the wall of their captors. He heard a loud count by the leader, "One-two-three."

There was a volley. Another count, and another burst of gunfire. This was repeated, and then there was a lingering burst of scattered firing.

"Good Job," Says 12-Year-Old.

A boy about 12 years old, living in the nearest house, told me today that the firing sounded "like a canebrake on fire and a-popping." He added, "They did a good job."

How good a job was plain to be seen, two days later. The Negroes, apparently huddled together, fell in a clump. Four dark stains on the pine needles were close together. Three pine trees above bore the scars of bullets, all about four feet from the ground. The leaves and branches of sweet gum seedlings were perforated by buckshot. Today, the glazed, dried pools were covered with flies.

The wife of Malcolm was found later with her head all but blown away by a charge of buckshot, fired at close range, that had entered the side of her face. She was 17 years old. All four were found with bullet wounds in the top of their heads, showing that the fire had been poured into their bodies after they fell.

The body of Malcolm, whose knife-wielding had brought on the trouble, was riddled more than the others.

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Calls Sheriff Gordon.

Harrison's worries had just begun. As he told his story afterward, the band returned to his car, and he heard a suggestion that the best thing would be to remove all witnesses.

"Do you recognize any of us?" the leader demanded. He said no. The leader walked up and down beside the car, pondering. He asked again, "Do you know us?" Harrison gave the same response. They told him to go back the way he had come. They walked across the bridge to the parked car, or wheeled to enter the other cars in military formation, two by two, in regular stride. Harrison drove back toward Monroe, called Sheriff Gordon at the nearest telephone and was told to go on home. Sun. 7-28-46

Another sign of the careful preparation for the murder was seen when Harrison, deciding to go home by an alternative route, came to the river crossing and found his way blocked, the same as before. This time, however, the men merely looked into his automobile, saw that he was alone, and permitted him to pass. The band had been taking no chances of failing to intercept him. Courier Journal

The sheriff and coroner rushed to the scene with a jury for an inquest, which was held on the river bank by flashlight. This spectral function resulted in a verdict: "Death at the hands of persons unknown."

County Is a Violent One.

On the surface of life in Monroe and through Walton County, there is a strange unruffled aspect today. But that is not the whole story. Something of what may happen was related to me today by a man who insisted that he be unnamed.

"I work a lot of Negroes," he said. "One of my boys was saying this morning, 'Mister Will, you reckon there's going to be any more of this business?' I told him not if everybody kept his head. Then he said, 'You know, Mister Will, we got a lot of mean niggers around here, and they ain't going to let this thing rest.'" Sun. 7-28-46

Walton County has a record of violence. Two Negroes were lynched, in broad day on the fringe of town, in 1911. In 1940, State troopers were sent there to protect a Negro on trial for rape, in the face of threats to do away with the law—"to leave the State expense," as the process is described here in explanation of Thursday's murder. This explanation fails to take into account the slaughter of the two young women and George Dorsey, the innocent companion of Malcolm—Dorsey, a four-year serviceman not long discharged.

34a

In still another episode of violence in these parts, just across the river in Watkinsville, seat of Oconee County, four Negroes were taken from jail, hanged, shot and their bodies burned.

Spot Shown to Child.

The latter story was recited by a man who squatted, whittling, near the scene of the execution, which has become an attraction of sightseers. Sun. 7-28-46

"They were looking for a fellow, and didn't know which one it was," he said. "So they cleaned out the jail." He grinned slightly. "One of them was in there for just plain drunk." Louisville

As he spoke a new car drove up. A young man and a pretty girl alighted. Husband and wife, they carefully lifted to the ground a boy of about 4, and led him between them to spot where the flies and wasps nudged about the four dark, dried pools. He stood there staring wide-eyed as they inspected the scene. Ky.

Georgia Mob of 20 Men Massacres 2 Negroes, Wives; One Was Ex-GI

New York, N.Y.

By The Assoc

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 26—Two young Negroes, one a war veteran who served in the Pacific, and their wives were lined up last night near a secluded road and shot dead by an unmasked band of twenty white men.

[Tom Clark, United States Attorney General, said today that he has ordered "a complete investigation" into the slayings by the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice.]

It was the first lynching of more than one person in Georgia since 1918. Ten Negroes were lynched in Brooks County then. There have been nine instances of multiple lynchings in the State since 1922. Sat 7-27-46

The ghastly details of the multiple lynching were told by Loy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was taking the Negroes to his farm and who was held at gun point by the mob.

Mr. Harrison had come to Monroe from his farm to get Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. He was accompanied by the three other Negroes, Malcolm's wife and George Dorsey and his wife. 7-27-46

The white man and the four Negroes were en route back home in a car when they were waylaid by the mob. Their questioning indicated they were seeking Malcolm. There was no indication why they also took Dorsey out for execution. The women were killed because one of them recognized a member of the mob.

The coroner said that at least sixty bullets were pumped into the bodies of the Negro farm hands and their wives. The grotesquely sprawled bodies were found in a clump of bushes beside a little-used sideroad. New York, N.Y.

Mr. Harrison said the band, led by a "tall, dignified looking white man" lined the Negroes up four abreast, and then to the count of "one, two, three" by the leader, three volleys were fired into the quartet.

"I didn't have anthing but a pocket knife," Mr. Harrison related. "What could I do?"

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Mr. Harrison said "most of the men were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me. The leader looked like a retired business man. He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big broad-brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good Florida suntan."

Hands of Men Bound

The hands of the two men were bound behind them. The hands of the women were free. The upper part of the bodies were scarcely recognizable from the mass of bullet holes.

The women were sisters.

The tragedy occurred about eight miles from here late yesterday, but the story did not "leak out" until today. Monroe is forty miles northeast of Atlanta.

One of the Negroes was shot in the back and W. T. Brown, the coroner, said that this indicated some member of the mob fired at him after he fell from the first fusilade.

Georgia Victims Buried As Kin Stay in Hiding

By Art Shields Daily Worker Tuesday 7-30-46 New York

(Reprinted from Yesterday's Late Edition)

MONROE, Ga., July 28.—"Just bury them quick. Go ahead and bury them. That's the best thing to do," said George Dorsey's landlord as the body of the lynched war veteran was about to be laid to rest, late this afternoon. Burial

It was a brutal remark from the man who had quarrelled with Dorsey two weeks ago, and who was with him when he was shot to death with his wife and another Negro couple in the mass lynching Thursday.

Loy Harrison, Dorsey's landlord, a prosperous Walton County planter, is the big question mark in this atrocity that followed the nomination of Eugene Talmadge for governor on a "white supremacy" ticket. Tues. 7-30-46

I heard Harrison scolding about the Dorseys when I went to the old Dorsey home with a group of Monroe Negroes to look for the veteran's mother. The old lady, a tenant of Harrison's, had vanished before the terror. She wasn't present when the flag-draped coffin of her son, who had fought the Japanese four years, was lowered into the cemetery of the little Baptist church at Mt. Perry, 12 miles from Monroe.

The shock had also been too much for the parents of his sister, May Malcolm, the widow of one of the other lynching victims, Roger Malcolm, who was buried with him. They didn't come.

But 150 sharecroppers and their wives and children defied the terrorists, who had pounced 20 strong on the two couples Thursday night.

Landlord Harrison came out of his big expensive brick house a couple of hundred yards from the tumbly old home where the Dorseys resided, as we went past.

He was red-jowled, broad shouldered, and big-bellied—a typical Georgia "boss man" of about 47. But he was jittery as could be as he talked of the aftermath of the mass lynching.

"The federal men have been with me all day—they seem to think I am to blame," he admitted. "I told them I didn't know who done it. I might have been killed too."

Then Harrison began complaining about the Dorseys and fretting about the money that he said they owed him for fertilizer and other supplies. New York.

Dorsey had been cropping for him since January. He had bailed Malcolm out of jail for $600 (in an alleged stabbing case), because he "needed hands," he said, and had the two couples with him when the 20 men took them away. N.Y.

The two women, he said, were killed when they cursed the killers (one of them, he had earlier said, had cried out the name of one of the lynchers).

I didn't hear Harrison say one word against the killers themselves. His complaints kept going back to the Dorseys, who, he asserted, were not quiet people.

His attitude checks with the story that he had asked Dorsey to leave the farm two weeks ago—**shortly before crop settlement time.**

Dorsey replied that he was staying. He had had worse times overseas, he declared.

34a

Special to the Daily Worker

WINSTON SALEM, N. C., July 28.—A mass meeting of 5,000 Negro and white workers here meeting Sunday afternoon unanimously passed a resolution demanding the arrest and full punishment of the Georgia lynchers. The resolution demanded the immediate passage of the Federal anti-lynch bill. Tues. 7-30-46

The meeting was called by Local 22, CIO Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers, to give details of a new contract won from the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company and to map plans for strikes underway in tobacco leaf houses here.

Day of Mourning For Lynch Victims

Daily Worker 8-1-46 34a

Special to the Daily Worker

PHILADELPHIA, July 31.—Church, civic, labor and other leaders of all races and creeds have joined with Joseph Rainey, NAACP president, in sponsoring Friday, Aug. 2, as a day of mourning for the victims of the Georgia lynchings.

All citizens are being asked to wear mourning bands or laped ribbons during the day. Stores are being asked to close for a period between 1 and 2 p.m., posting mourning placards in their windows. Radio stations are being asked to observe a half minute of silence. All persons are asked likewise to observe a moment of silence in their homes or shops, and further to ask that Pres. Truman intervene personally to stop the bestial terror against their fellow Americans.

Memorial Rites For Mob Victims

Constitution Atlanta Ga.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1—(UP) An open-air memorial funeral service will be held here Monday for the four victims of the recent Georgia lynchings.

Dr. Joseph L. Johnson, Chairman of the Washington Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, which is sponsoring the service, said that 10,000 Negro and white persons are expected to attend.

Dr. Johnson announced later that the services would be held at the Lincoln Memorial, shrine to the Civil War President who ended Southern slavery. Fri. 8-2-46

"We feel a moral responsibility for what has happened in Georgia," Johnson said. "We want to pay our respects to the bereaved families. We want the world to know that there are those, from the South and elsewhere, who decry this brutal taking of lives."

34a

Georgia Lynching Stirs Church Action

Times-Union Mon. 7-29-46

MONROE, Ga., July 28, (AP)—A Monroe church congregation called today on local and Walter County authorities to cooperate with State officials in running down members of the armed band which lynched four negroes near here July 25. Fayetteville

The First Methodist Church unanimously adopted a resolution to this effect at its morning church service. Bob Sams, chairman of the resolution committee, said he would ask all other churches in Monroe to adopt similar resolutions. Fla.

The resolution, which also condemned "the outrage against humanity," came on the heels of a declaration by Major William E. Spence, head of the Georgia State police, that he was not getting cooperation in tracking down the lynching mob Mon. 7-29-46

Spence said the "good people" in Walton County "won't talk about the mass murder" even though some of them "know who members of the gang were."

Strong Church Resolutions Hit Walton Outbreak

Constitution Atlanta Ga.

Methodist and Episcopal ministers of Atlanta yesterday passed resolutions strongly condemning the recent lynchings in Walton County when four Negroes died before a hail of bullets from rifles, shotguns and pistols.

The Methodist resolution stated:

"The Atlanta Methodist Ministers' Association looks with horror and shame upon the lynching in Walton County, Georgia, of four Negroes by a mob of cowardly white men. To our way of thinking, the hideous murder of four helpless people has besmirched the good name of Georgia, it has outraged all decency, it has violated all Christian conscience, and it has lynched the very law itself.

"We have just recently sent millions of the flower of our young manhood to Europe and to Asia to stamp out Naziism, whose habit has been to take the law into its own hands and murder helpless people. Now, in Georgia, something closely akin to Naziism in Europe and Asia has arisen, and in every sense it is just as brutal.

"We commend the officers of the law in Walton County and of the State of Georgia for the efforts they have already made to apprehend the cowardly mob and bring them to justice. We sympathize with the community where the tragedy occurred. Tue. 7-30-46

"We call on all decent citizens of our State to rise up in denunciation of this foul deed, and to make known to brutal gangsters everywhere that as a civilized people we will not stand for such shameful mob rule in Georgia."

34a

Lynch Victims Laid To Rest On Ga. "Black Sunday"

Daily World Atlanta Ga.

BY I. P. REYNOLDS

MONROE, Ga. —(SNS)—Simple and touching rites were conducted Sunday afternoon for three of the lynch victims. Sunday

The double funeral of Mrs. Dorothy Malcolm and her brother, George Dorsey was held at Mount Perry Baptist Church, at Bishop, Georgia, a little town in Morgan County, with Rev. Joseph C. Ingram officiating. 7-30-46

The funeral was scheduled for 2 o'clock, but was delayed when members of the immediate family failed to show up. D. W. Young, funeral director who was in charge of the funeral combed the vicinity for relatives and around four o'clock Robert Elder, an aged uncle entered the church and the funeral proceeded.

The crowd was composed of more than 100 Negroes and several white newsmen and photographers from all sections of the country. The photographers and newsreel men made numerous shots during the ceremonies.

FINE ARMY RECORD

George Dorsey, who was a veteran of World War II had a fine Army record. It was disclosed that he was a private first class in the Army Air Corps, and had been awarded the Good Conduct Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Medal with One Bronze Star, an Army Defense Award, and several campaign stars.

They were buried in a little cemetery, near the church.

Funeral services for Mrs. Mae Murray Dorsey were held at Tabernacle Baptist Church, here, with Rev. O. M. Collins, officiating.

Mrs. Dorsy was well-known here and a large crowd of friends joined the sorrowing family and other relatives in paying final tribute to the deceased. 7-30-46

SMALL CROWD

Final rites for Roger Malcolm were held Monday at Chestnut Grove, with Rev. Jeff Madox officiating. Tues.

These ceremonies were held in Morgan County near the scene of the fight which led to the lynching and the crowd was exceptionally small.

34a

Day of Mourning Marks Philly Protest on Georgia Massacre

Daily Worker

By Walter Lowenfels

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 2.—Burning resentment was show here at the Georgia massacre with a day of mourning that closed over 2,600 stores in South St. and six other famous shopping districts between 1 and 2 p.m. Crepe armbands were worn throughout many areas. The protest memorial was called by the NAACP and 40 other labor, civic, church and business sponsors representing a broad section of the whole population. Sat. 8-3-46

In addition to 2,100 stores shut by businessmen's groups, the NAACP announced 500 additional stores had closed. Printed and home-made signs on the barred doors announced "Closed in memory of the Georgia lynching." One of two bars and beer distributors, who defied the closing order, were shut down by angry, inter-racial groups. In one case three white NMU seamen insisted that a popular bar on South St. close, and it did. New York.

In the late afternoon, a picket line of mourners from the CIO Food and Tobacco Workers, NMU, Veterans, and other groups, paraded through the center of the city with placards demanding President Truman intervene personally to stop the Klan terror. N.Y.

An overflow inter-racial service in Jones Tabernacle was addressed by Rev. W. C. Williamson, pastor of the largest local Baptist Church, and Jessie Schneiderman, Communist Party district board member. Sat. 8-3-46

The day of mourning was climaxed tonight with three mass protest meetings sponsored by the Communist Party. N.Y.

34a

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune
Aug. 1, 1946

Foreman Plans Memorial for Lynched Negroes

NEW YORK, Aug. 1.—(INS)—Dr. Clark Howell Foreman, of Atlanta. President of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, said today his organization will hold a service Monday at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington for four Negroes recently lynched at Monroe, Ga.

Foreman was in New York to enlist support for a drive to raise $100,000 for a campaign against "reactionary" politicians in the South.

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Kin Not at Rites for Mob Victims; Friends Ascribe Absence to Fear

Times New York, N.Y.

Services Are Held Up for Two Hours on Word That Group Had Started From Farm —Monroe Church Condemns Lynchings

Monday 7-29-46

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 28 (U.P.)—Close relatives of two of the four Negroes killed by a white mob here Thursday failed to appear at funeral services today and friends voiced the belief that they were "too frightened" to attend.

The relatives were reported to have started for the services from the farm of J. Loy Harrison, from whose car the lynching victims were taken by the mob. D. W. Young, the undertaker, said that Mr. Harrison had told him that he had "hired a man" to drive the relatives to the funeral.

The services were for George Dorsey and his sister, the wife of Rogers Malcolm. Those reported to have been on the way included members of the immediate family of the two for whom the services were held. 7-29-46

Services Delayed Two Hours

The services were held up for almost two hours, but only an uncle, Robert Elder, appeared to represent the family. More than 100 other Negroes attended. There were a few whites, mostly reporters.

Mr. Young said that he did not believe the relatives had met foul play, but that their disappearance "certainly was a mystery," because they had been interested in providing a "good funeral."

Services for Dorsey's wife were held here late this afternoon. Services for Malcolm will be held later.

State officials said that their investigation of the lynchings was still being blocked by lack of cooperation from local officials and the silence of townspeople.

Rewards totaling $12,500 have been offered for information leading to identification of members of the mob.

Church Pledges Cooperation

MONROE, Ga., July 28 (AP)—The First Methodist Church here adopted unanimously today a resolution "condemning the outrage against humanity which took place in Walton County, Ga., Thursday, July 25, 1946," and asking "that local and county authorities cooperate with State authorities in bringing those guilty of this hideous crime to justice."

"We pledge our [illegible] cooperation," the resolution [illegible] [illegible] Sams, chairman of the resolution committee, said that he [illegible] ask all other churches in [illegible] to adopt similar resolutions.

At Valdosta, Methodist Sunday School classes called on "the Christian people of Georgia to take some action."

Ga.

BOSTON, July 28—The Wellesley School of Community Affairs, which is in session at Wellesley College, urged on the Federal Government and Georgia today "immediate apprehension and vigorous and just prosecution of those guilty of and responsible for" the lynchings, which it called a "crime against our American democracy."

7-29-46

Truman "Silence" Assailed

A meeting held here yesterday under the auspices of the National Negro Congress, denounced the lynching of four Georgia negroes and adopted a resolution directed to President Truman which said:

N.Y. N.Y.

"We are grieved and astounded at your continued silence over the renewed wave of terror directed against the Negro people of the South. We call upon you as the political leader of our nation to speak out in sharp condemnation o fthose citizens and State and Federal officials who condone, encourage or participate in terroristic attacks upon negro citizens."

34a

The meeting was in Dorrance Brooks Square, 136th Street and St. Nicholas Avenue, and was attended by about 1000.

Times

A resolution calling on Attorney General Clark for action declared that the lynchings came "as a direct result of the campaign of race hate and 'white supremacy' propaganda deliberately carried on by Senator Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi and Governor-elect Eugene Talmadge of Georgia." 7-29-46

Representative Adam Clayton Powell of New York accused Senators Robert F. Wagner and James M. Mead of "being accomplices in the death" of the lynching victims "because they failed to speak out against Bilbo."

Monday

Paul Robeson, chairman of the Council on African Affairs, wired to President Truman a "demand that the Federal Government take immediate effective steps to apprehend and punish" the lynchers and "to halt the rising tide of lynch law."

Kin Fail to Attend

Mob Victims' Funeral Held Up for 2 Hours

The Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

By Special Correspondent

Aug. 8-3-46

MONROE, Ga.—Held in an atmosphere of solemnity, coupled with an air of mystery and extra tragedy when close relatives of Dorsey and his sister failed to attend, funeral services for three of the victims of a twenty-man armed lynch mob were held here Sunday.

34a

Meanwhile, authorities of the Federal, State and county were relentlessly hunting for clues to the ruthless murder of four Walton County Negroes last Thursday by an armed white band.

Double services were held at Mount Perry Church in Morgan County, about fourteen miles from Monroe, for Dorothy Malcolm, wife of Roger Malcolm, and her brother, George Dorsey.

Only one member of the immediate family, Robert Elder, an uncle, attended the final rites and paid his last tribute to the 27-year-old veteran of five years Army service and his sister.

SERVICES HELD UP

D. W. Young, Monroe undertaker, delayed the services more than two hours, while he sought the family of Dorsey and his sister, but finally went ahead with the rites when none appeared.

Members of the family were reported to have left the farm of J. Loy Harrison, only witness to the quadruple massacre, on a lonely rural road near here late Thursday, by automobile for Mount Perry Church, but they never arrived.

Undertaker Young said Harrison told him he had employed a man to drive the family to the funeral. The mortician said he did not believe the Negroes had suffered foul play, but that their disappearance "certainly was a mystery," because they had been interested in providing a "good funeral" for the victims.

34a

Friends of the family said they believed the near relatives did not attend the services because they were "too frightened."

Final rites for Mary Dorsey, 30, wife of George Dorsey, were held later Sunday afternoon at Tabernacle Baptist Church, in Monroe, with the Rev. O. M. Collins, pastor, officiating. Her only survivors, her parents, John and Hester Murray, and a sister, Frances Boyce, were present.

FEW WHITES ATTEND

Approximately 100 Negroes attended the last rites for the Dorsey brother and sister. There were a few white persons present, but most of them were newsmen.

Funeral services for Roger Malcolm, 27, husband of Dorothy Malcolm, have not been arranged, pending arrival of a sister, Dora Mae Prye, from Chicago. Malcolm's survivors include his parents, Buster and Dora Malcolm, and his sister.

The Courier

Meanwhile, the hunt for the victims' killers continued, but little tangible progress was reported.

CLUES MEAGRE

John F. Trost, agent in charge of the Atlanta office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, headed a four-man FBI squad which is on the scene sifting through the meager collection of clues in an effort to bring the slayers to justice.

Trost and his three assistants left their headquarters at the Walton Hotel about 8 A. M. Sunday for an unannounced destination and had not returned late in the afternoon. Pittsburgh Pa

Trost's only comment on the probe was that he and the other agents "are conducting a complete and thorough investigation into the murders at the direction of Attorney General Tom Clark's office." He said that is the only statement he is permitted to make.

Major W. E. Spence, head of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, reported Sunday night he and his men had spent the entire day running down several "good leads," but "they didn't pan out."

HAVE IDEA OF MOB MEMBERS

Spence said he and his aides have a good idea as to the identity of some of the mobsters, but "we are unable to prove it right now."

Spence disclosed late Saturday that GBI agents had found a 12-year-old youth who said he recognized the automobile of J. Loy Harrison as it passed him near the scene of the slaying last Thursday. The lad said another car was trailing close behind.

When questioned about these statements, Harrison said he did not recall seeing an automobile following him, other than one he noted some distance away through the rear-view mirror. He said he saw the other machine only once and did not spot it again before his car was stopped by the mob and the four Negro passengers marched to their ghastly doom at the hands of the vicious, self-appointed "firing squad."

Answering a resolution adopted by the First Methodist Church of Monroe in which the membership called on county authorities to cooperate fully with State authorities "in bringing those guilty of this hideous crime to justice," Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton County issued this statement Sunday night:

"We are ready to cooperate with the State. We've always been ready. It didn't take any resolution from the church or anybody else for that." Sat 8-3-46

OTHER CHURCHES PROTEST

Meanwhile, at least two other Georgia churches took cognizance of the multiple lynching. In Athens, the Rev. H. C. Holland, pastor of the First Methodist Church, declared the murders "un-Christian" and "a stigma on the good name of Georgia."

At Valdosta, the Methodist Church and Sunday School classes called on "the Christian people of Georgia to take some action."

ONE PICKED UP, RELEASED

Only one suspect has been picked up for questioning thus far by the GBI. He was identified as Lester Little, beer tavern employe near Monroe, and was released when Harrison, the sole witness to the slayings, failed to identify him as one of the killers.

One agent commented that Harrison's statement that he did not recognize the man "looked like it came mighty fast."

:full

Talmadge and "Best People" Set the Stage for Murder

Congressional Record

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Washington, D.C.

OF

HON. JOSEPH F. GUFFEY

7-29-46-mon.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Monday, July 29, 1946

Mr. GUFFEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Appendix of the RECORD an editorial entitled "Talmadge and 'Best People' Set the Stage for Murder," from the Philadelphia Record of July 29, 1946.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

TALMADGE AND "BEST PEOPLE" SET THE STAGE FOR MURDER

34a

Ga.

The doctrine of white supremacy with which ranting, wildeyed Eugene Talmadge talked himself into the Governorship of Georgia was demonstrated last week.

It was demonstrated with the shotgun.

The Talmadge creed of intolerance was proved when a lynch mob mowed down in cold blood two young Negro men—one a veteran—and their wives.

That was Talmadge white supremacy. And it was obscene murder.

There's no essential difference from the Hitler brutalities. Hitler "proved" Aryan supremacy with terrorism and murder, too.

The blood of these victims is on the head of grass-roots Fuehrer Talmadge, and on some of the "best people" who cynically backed him with their wealth for selfish, reactionary ends. 7-29-46

It is not coincidence that such a crime was committed hard on the heels of Talmadge's success in the Democratic primary. Mon.

Lynchings have steadily declined in the South in the last decade. There has been nothing so dreadful as this since 1918 when six Negroes were lynched, also in Georgia.

Last year there was only one lynching, and there was some doubt even about that.

Talmadge's whole sinister campaign was based on the "Negro menace." Like BILBO in Mississippi, he created an atmosphere of violence, inflamed the minds of the criminals, bigots, and dolts who make up lynch mobs. Congressional Record

To the warped mind, Talmadge's primary success, equivalent to election, confirmed the rightness of violence. Washington,

The mob that snuffed out four lives near Monroe last Thursday was out to lynch for lynching's sake. While they did not speak for the people of Georgia, they were proclaiming in their evil voices that Georgia was turning back, that the fine administration of progressive Governor Ellis Arnall was a passing phenomenon. D.C.

Even to a gross fanatic, there was no cause for the mass murder in the offense of one of the Negro men. He had stabbed a white man. But the wound was slight and the crime itself was not considered serious. Georgia officials released him in small bail.

To that mob any victim would have served.

Talmadge was not only the candidate of the ignorant, prejudice-ridden "crackers." He had the backing of some utilities, manufacturers, and banks which saw danger to vested interests in a continuation of Arnall's liberal policies. 7-29-46-mon.

They must have known the "wild man from Sugar Creek" for what he is—a Fascist peril. Yet they poured from $500,000 to $750,000 into the campaign, it is reported.

Talmadge and these "best people" were not in the lonely swamp at dusk when four human beings were murdered.

But they gave the mob its motive.

Terrorism has ben revived in Georgia. A measure of its revival is the assertion now from the chief of the State Investigating Bureau that "under conditions now in Georgia we cannot cope with mob violence."

The chief is an officer of Arnall's progressive administration. Obviously, he wants to cope with it.

If Georgia cannot deal with lynch murder, then the Federal Government must. This is not only Georgia's problem. It's the Nation's problem—and the Nation's shame.

Let the Congress, now poised for vacation, push through a Federal anti-lynching bill, before more lives are taken.

LYNCHINGS LISTED UNDER TALMADGE

New York Times

Southern Council Protests His Denial of Outrages—14 Are Charged During 3 Terms

Fri. 8-2-46

New York, N.Y.

ATLANTA, Aug. 1 (AP)—The Southern Regional Council, through its executive director, Guy B. Johnson, took issue today with a statement by Eugene Talmadge that during his three terms as Governor "there was not a lynching in the State." A statement by Mr. Johnson said:

"It is unfortunate that Mr. Talmadge did not check up on the records before stating that during his three terms as Governor of Georgia there was not a lynching in the State. The records show five lynchings during his first term, eight during his second term and one during his third term—making a total of fourteen."

34a

Ga.

"From 1882 through 1930," he said, "Georgia had 508 lynchings, or an average of 10.3 per year. From 1931 through 1945 Georgia had nineteen lynchings, or an average of 1.3 a year. In six of the last fifteen years there were no lynchings at all in Georgia."

The council announced an increase from $500 to $1,000 of the reward it offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the men involved in the recent lynching of four Negroes in Walton County.

The council is an inter-racial organization with an announced objective of seeking better race relations in the South.

Fri. 8-2-46

Lynch Awards Near $30,000

MONROE, Ga., Aug. 1 (AP)—Rewards for arrest and conviction of the mobsters who shot four Negroes to death by a country roadside near here neared $30,000 today as private organizations augmented the fund started by the State. The National Maritime Union, CIO, has added $5,000 in honor of "6,000 seamen who died in World War II."

Truman Voted Anti-Lynch Bills

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (AP) — President Truman reminded his news conference today that he voted for Federal anti-lynching legislation every time it came up during his service as Senator. He declined to add to a statement released by the Justice Department Tuesday. He said that he had made his position clear in instructions to Tom Clark, Attorney General, to use all Justice Department resources. New York, N.Y.

Memorial Rites for Victims

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (U.P.)—An open-air memorial funeral service will be held here Monday night for the four victims of the recent Georgia lynchings.

Dr. Joseph L. Johnson, chairman of the Washington Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, which is sponsoring the service, said that 10,000 Negro and white persons are expected to attend.

"We feel a moral responsibility for what has happened in Georgia," Dr. Johnson said. "We want to pay our respects to the bereaved families. We want the world to know that there are those, from the South and elsewhere, who decry this brutal taking of lives."

Memorial Services Planned

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (AP)—The government today granted the Southern Conference for Human Welfare permission to use the Lincoln Memorial here for a memorial service for four Negroes lynched near Monroe, Ga.

The Interior Department said the action was taken by the National Capital Park Service "with the knowledge and approval" of Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug. Fri. 8-2-46

Lynching Box Score

Amsterdam News

8-3-46—Sat.

1939—Three

1940—Five

1941—Four

1942—Five

1943—Three

1942—Two

1946—Five

New York, N.Y.

34a

Do Not Judge County Guilty, Walton Plea

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Thur. 8-1-46

MONROE, July 31—In his first statement since the lynching of four Negro farm hands near here last week, Marshall Pollock, Solicitor General of Georgia's Western Circuit, made a plea Wednesday that the people of Walton County not be held guilty for "the brutal and wanton acts of a few."

Pollock said he was making his statement because remarks allegedly made by a leader of the investigation had conveyed "wrongful impressions" of the vast majority of the people of Walton County.

34a

He apparently had reference to remarks made by W. E. Spence, Chief of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, who told newsmen last week he was "unable to cope with the situation" because "the good people in town are afraid to talk."

In one news release, Spence also was quoted as saying he was not getting co-operation from local authorities.

POLLOCK'S STATEMENT

Pollock's statement follows in full:

"This office has made no statement since the regrettable occurrence which took place in our County some days ago because we did not consider it proper or necessary. However, certain admitted misquotations of a leader of the investigation as to the attitude of the authorities and the people of Walton County now make such a statement desirable.

"That leader has corrected the misquotation, but the people of Walton County feel the wrongful impressions conveyed to others interested in justice in many States has not been corrected.

"To those who know the character of the vast majority of the people of Walton County, their fairness, their horror of the crime that had been committed, no explanation is necessary.

"Their desire that the guilty be apprehended is certainly greater than that of people less directly affected. However, they are no more able to point out the guilty or assist authorities than those more remote from the scene of the crime. Thur. 8-1-46

ASKED ASSISTANCE

"Local law enforcement authorities are equally desirious of the arrest of the parties guilty of the crime. Their first action was to call in the FBI and the GBI for assistance in the investigation. They were manifestly unable to cope with the situation because they lacked the training and the facilities necessary. Their best efforts have been directed towards co-operating with these agencies since that time.

"All are shocked and grieved at the brutal and wanton acts of a few. No one is trying to escape the responsibility that rests upon them. As the investigation continues we ask only that we be not prejudged, and that we be given an opportunity to justify the faith that many have expressed in us that the principles of law and humanity will be upheld.

"Marshall Pollock, Solicitor General, Western Circuit."

MORE AID EXPECTED

Federal, State and local authorities continued the probe of the quadruple killing Wednesday. A total of six GBI and 12 FBI agents were reported already in Walton County and vicinity, while it was learned from a reliable source that an additional 25 FBI agents would join them soon.

Meanwhile in Atlanta, Gov. Arnall sent a telegram to President Truman during the day, thanking the Chief Executive for Federal co-operation in the investigation of the lynching.

The Governor also sent telegrams of appreciation to Atty. Gen. Clark and Federal Bureau of Investigation Chief J. Edgar Hoover. Thur. 8-1-46

Clark announced Tuesday the President had ordered the Department of Justice to use all its resources to arrest the lynchers.

Gov. Arnall's telegram to the President follows:

"I greatly appreciate the full co-operation of the Federal Government, the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in assisting state and local authorities to apprehend the desperadoes who lynched four Negroes in Walton County, Ga., on July 25. The crime against civilization must be punished. Lynchings must stop. Regards."

The Governor has ordered Maj. William E. Spence, head of the State Police, to remain in Walton County until the case is solved.

Spence has placed handbills offering rewards of $14,000 for apprehension of the lynchers in every mail box in five Northeast Georgia counties.

Talmadge Deplores Lynchings

News-Courier

Tues. 7-31-46

Charleston, S.C.

34a

Monroe, Ga., July 29.—(AP). Engene Talmadge, who'll take over as Georgia's governor in January, said today the mass-lynching of four negroes here last week was "regrettable" and that during his administration "such atrocities will be at a minimum".

Talmadge, back in the state after a western vacation following his selection as the Democratic nominee for governor in the July 17 primary, in a formal statement said he was very sorry that the lynchings occurred in Governor Ellis Arnall's administration. Tues. 7-30-46

"I sympathize with him and know that it did cause him chagrin and embarassment," Talmadge said of Arnall, who defeated him four years ago and backed another candidate against him in this year's primary. Democratic nomination in Georgia is equivalent to election.

Arnall has offered a $10,000 reward on behalf of the state for apprehension of the group of white men who ruthlessly shot to death Roger Malcom and his wife and George Dorsey and his wife as an apparent sequel to Malcom's being arrested July 14 on a charge of stabbing his white employer.

In Washington, White House Press Secretary Charles G. Ross told a news conference President Truman has taken direct hand in the lynching investigation. Charleston

A group of negroes protesting the slayings was received by David K. Niles, presidential administrative assistant, after they paraded to focus attention on the incident. They were headed by Professor Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress. S.C.

Arnall Returning Reward Money

Atlanta, Ga. Journal

Aug. 5, 1946

Ga.

Governor Arnall said Monday many individuals and organization from all over the nation were sending reward offers in connection with the Walton County massacre of four Negroes July 18. He said the amounts ranged from $50 to $1,000. The Governor explained he was returning all checks and cash money sent to him and was informing the persons offering the rewards that he would post notices of the money offered.

Identify Georgia Killers; 5 Dead

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.
Amsterdam News

By ALEXANDER SMITHFIELD
(Staff Correspondent)

ATLANTA—Top leaders of the lynch mob which massacred two women and their husbands on a highway less than 40 miles from Georgia's largest city are said to be known positively, the Amsterdam News learned this week, but no arrests will be made until FBI agents complete their investigation.

34a

Spokesmen for Gov. Ellis Arnall and Major W. E. Spence, of the State Bureau of Investigation, maintained in the meantime that there was nothing new on the case.

It was learned, nevertheless, that Gov. Arnall's investigators had succeeded in identifying at least 30 of the lynch mob's participants, that their names had been turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Worst Yet

Sat

Major Spence described the lynching as "the worst thing that ever happened in Georgia."

New York, N.Y.

The victims, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Malcolm, their neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. George Dorsey, were forcibly removed from a car early last Thursday evening, as the automobile, driven by J. Loy Harrison, aproached a bridge on a highway 10 miles from Monroe, Ga.

Malcolm, 27, had just been released in $600 bail following his arrest for allegedly having knifed and seriously wounded his employer, Barney Jester. The latter, a young man of 22, was stabbed near the heart when he attempted to whip Malcolm for reportedly having struck Mrs. Malcolm during a family squabble.

Harrison, who lived across the line in another county, had bailed the suspect out and was taking him to his farm to work pending the outcome of Jester's condition.

Checked Lynched Area

This reporter drove into the troubled area on two occasions after the lynching, but was warned by police each time to move around a my own risk.

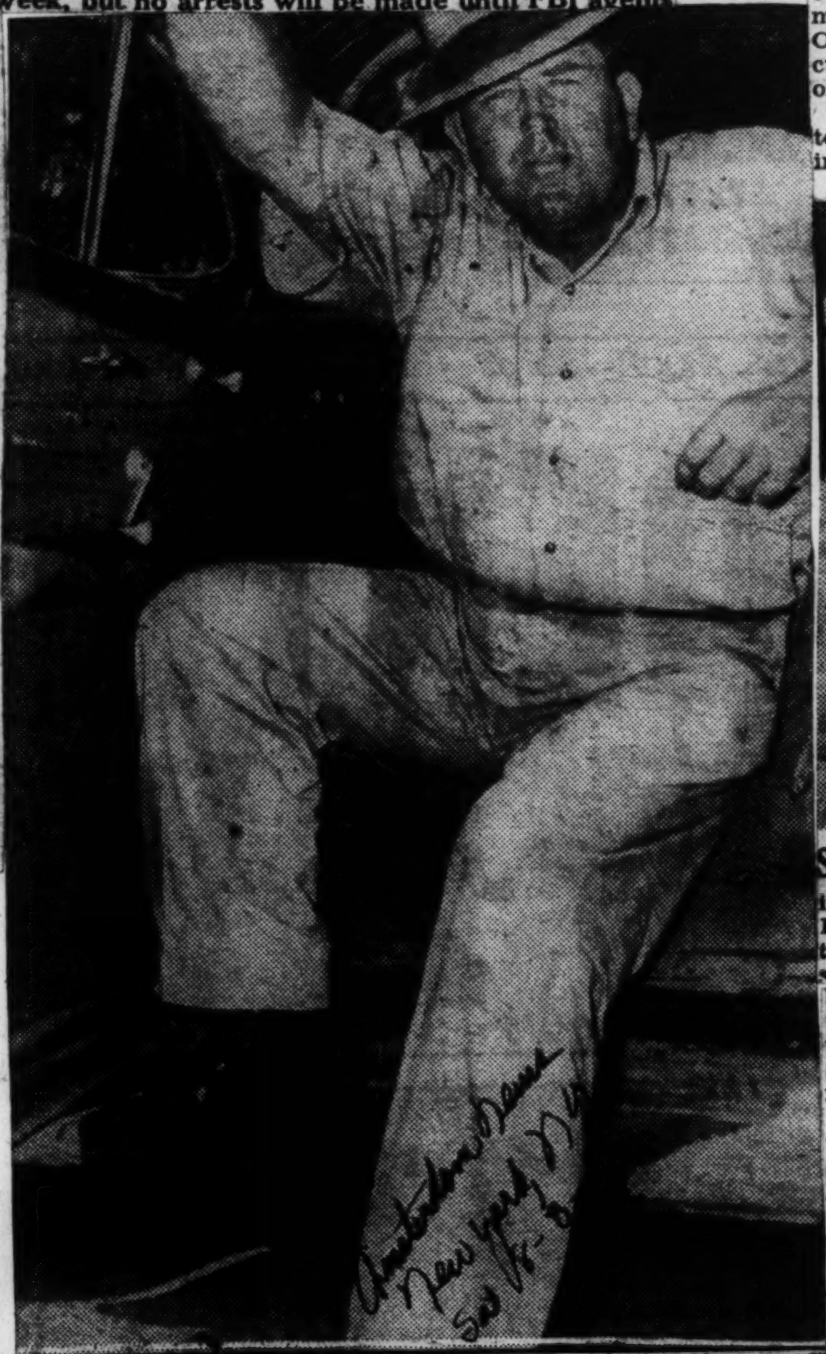
8-3-46

New Yorkers who read about th terror in Germany under Hitle would be surprised to know many o Monroe's residents do not believ that Nazism is one bit worse tha Talmadge-ism.

8-3-46

Negro-hating white men, most o them farm laborers, walk the stree gloating threats that there is mor violence to come. Ngro home owner are not allowed in the street afte 5 p. m., and what guns and ammunition they had was confiscated immediately after the news of the multiple lynching was made public.

As Harrison, the only eyewitness, related the horrible story, he and the four Negro occupants of his car were halted on a bridge crossing the Appalachee River.



Amsterdam News
New York N.Y.
Sat 8-3

ALTHOUGH HE PROMISED THE LYNCHERS he wouldn't talk, Lloyd Harrison, driver of car which murderers stopped, gave state investigators a graphic description of the mob's leader. If Harrison tells all, as appeared likely Monday, he may be awarded the $10,000 which Gov. Ellis Arnall offered for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of the killers.

"I was on my way back home. I'd made bond for Roger. We came to the bridge and was about to drive across when I saw a car blocking the road ahead at the other end. Then from both sides of the car men commenced surrounding us.

"Soon a car drove up behind mine, bumper to bumper. A fellow came out, put a shot gun against the back of my head and said 'put 'em up all of you.'

"Quiet" Yelled, Mobster

"Another fellow said, pointing at Roger, that's the nigger we want. Others in the crowd walked over to my car and shackled Roger's hands behind his back with a rope. Dorsey told them they had the wrong fellow, that it was another fellow they wanted.

"Shut up, another mobster yelled, who asked you any questions. I'll bet you're one of them niggers who voted the other day. Then, as George protested, they tied him up too.

"The tall, dignified-looking leader of the group ordered the others to march 'em over there in the woods. One of the girls started crying and cussing and finally called out o one of the men:

"Mr. - - - -, you know you oughtn't to do that. Them boys are just as innocent as you are.

"The leader looked back and said bring them black bitches along, they've seen too much. I hate to do this because I was going to use them another way later, but it's too late now bring 'em along."

Mrs. Malcolm and Mrs. Dorsey were pulled from the car and dragged to the spot where their husbands had been lined up like mad dogs, one white newspaper men told me he was told.

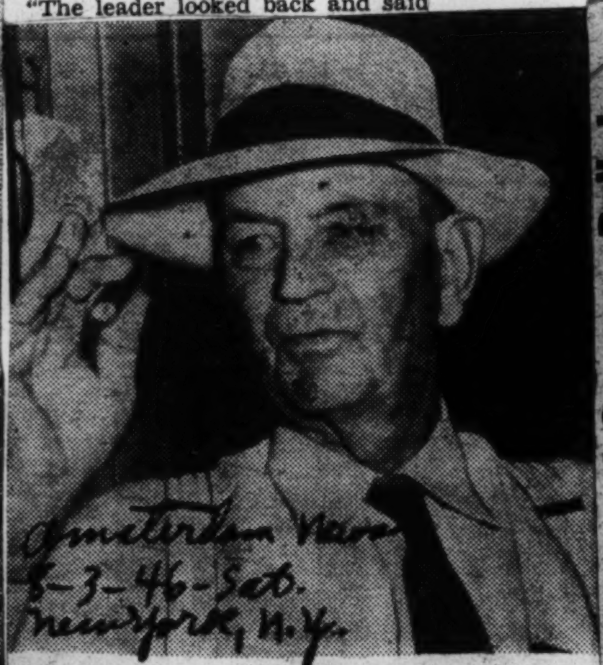
34a

And according to Harrison's version of the lynching, the mob leader counted one, two, three. Each time a number was called at least 50 men fired away with shot guns, rifles and revolvers.

Riddled Bodies

Examination of the bodies later showed that each victim had been shot at least 50 times, The women had been so mutilated with bullets about the breasts and face that they could hardly be recognized

Harrison was forced to remain on the scene, he said, until the savagery was over. Then the mob leader asked him if he recognized any of the men he saw. Harrison answered no, he explained to Sheriff E. S. Gordon, so they ordered him to get in his automobile and drive on back to town.



Amsterdam News
8-3-46-Sat.
New York, N.Y.

SHERIFF E. S. GORDON: Shown in his office explaining he knew nothing of the lynching although the FBI is probing rumors that one hour before the lynching Negroes had been ordered off the streets and into their homes.

Norfolk Va. Pilot
Aug. 3, 1946

Negroes Raise Reward

Atlanta, Aug. 2.—(AP)—Fifteen hundred Georgia Negroes met here and voted to launch a campaign to raise $100,000 for use as rewards for the apprehension of those persons responsible for the Monroe, Ga., lynchings and any future lynchings in the State. At the organization meeting the Negroes agreed to post $10,000 of the amount raised for the arrest and conviction of the 20 armed men who killed four Negroes about 10 days ago at Monroe, Ga.

34a

7453

Dorsey Escaped German Bullets, But Those From Georgia 'Got Him'

Pittsburg Pa. Sat 8-3-46
34a

By Special Correspondent

MONROE, Ga.—George Dorsey, 27-year-old veteran of World War II, had escaped the bullets of Germans . . . but he was helpless before the mob of cowardly whites, who shot him down "without a chance."

Dorsey had returned to Georgia in January of this year, following five years of service in the Armed Forces of his country. Most of his tour of duty [illegible] North Africa and the Mediterranean Theater of Operations.

FIRST MULTIPLE LYNCHING THIS YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala., July 26 (AP) A Tuskegee Institute officials said today the killing of four negroes by a band of white men in Georgia was the first incident of its kind reported in the United States this year.

Birmingham 34a Ala

A. L. Holsey, public relations director at the institute, said the last one occurred in Madison, Fla., in August, 1945, when a negro was taken out of jail and shot to death.

The last "multiple lynching" listed on Tuskegee's records, Hol-ey said, was one in Quitman, Miss., in October, 1942, when two 4-year-old negro boys charged vith attempted rape were seized y a mob and hanged from a river ridge.

News 7-26-46

(34a) Ga.

A.M. New York, N.Y.
Mon. 8-5-46

There was SRO at Mother Zion A. M. E. Church, 140 W. 137th St. yesterday at a meeting calling for action againt the Monroe, Ga., lynchers (*see pages* 2-3-4). Speakers included Paul Ross, who represented Mayor O'Dwyer; Rabbi Sheperd Baum of the American Jewish Congress, Dr. Earl F. Adams, executive chairman of the Protestant Council of New York; Dr. C. B. Powell, publisher of the *Amsterdam News;* Congressmen Adam Clayton Powell, Jr, and Vito Marcantonio.

Icle Ga. Dispatch
July 29, 1946

Talmadge Says Lynching Not Reflection

34a

ATLANTA, Ga., July 29 — (UP)—Eugene Talmadge, who won his fourth election as governor of Georgia on a white cupremacy platform, said today the lynching of four Georgia negroes last week was not a reflection on the state.

Talmadge said it is only a reflection on the individuals who committed the crime.

Talmadge issued a statement following his return from a California vacation "During my three terms as governor of Georgia, there was not a lynching in the state. I am very sorry that a lynching did occur under the present governor's administration and I sympathize with him and know that it did cause him chagrin and embarrassment.

"While I am governor, I know that such atrocities will be at a minimum. It's very regrettable that mob violence occurs in any section of the country."

And Talmadge added "There was a great deal of mob violence in Detroit, Chicago, and other sections of the country during the past few years.

"The people of Georgia," he said, always sympathized with other sections of the United States when such occurrences happened and the better thinking people of Georgia knew that it was not a reflection on the state, or the people of the state but only on the individuals who committed the crime."

Expert Would Examine Harrison

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N!

NEW YORK—President Truman has been urged to repudiate the nomination of Eugene Talmadge as Democratic Governor of Georgia and to place the Democratic Party behind the candidacy of James V. Carmichael in the November election. This request came from a group of prominent political leaders.

Ralph Helstein, president of the Packinghouse Workers (CIO), has requested the President to call a special session of Congress to consider an anti-lynching law and legislation for FEPC.

By JAMES E. BOYACK

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RYE, N. Y.—Dr. William Moulton Marston, psychologist, and inventor of the Systolic Bloodpressure Deception Test, commonly known as the "Lie Detector Test" sat in the library of his estate near here Saturday and declared that "application of lie-detector procedures will quickly unravel" the mystery of the "Monroe Massacre" in Georgia, and point to those guilty.

34a

The famed criminologist said he has been studying the case from newspaper reports.

SUGGESTS EXAMINATION OF J. LOY HARRISON

"I would then continue to test examination of J. Loy Harrison the only living witness to the crime," he said, "to ascertain if he had any previous knowledge of the apparent plan to lynch Roger Malcolm, after he had been released on bail from the Monroe County jail.

"I would then continue to test Harrison as to his knowledge of, or acquaintance with residents of both Walton and Oconee counties. This test would establish with psychological assurance, how many men in these counties Harrison knew, either intimately, or by sight, or acquaintance.

"It is reported that Maj. William E. Spence, director, and other investigators of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation know the leader of the lynch mob, and at least five of its members.

WOULD 'STAND-UP' KNOWN SUSPECTS

"Such a test would fix in Harrison's mind that he must definitely lie, or tell the truth, when asked, under test, to identify suspects whom he knew.

34a

"I would then bring in, one at a time, all persons suspected of being members of the lynch mob, and would ask Harrison whether he recognized each man brought in, as a member of the mob," Dr. Marston explained.

Courier

'Whether he answered, 'Yes,' 'No,' or even refused to answer the questions, the lie-detector would record with unmistakable accuracy whether he had seen any given suspect at the scene of this heinous crime, or not.

"Knowing he had already told the examiner during the previous test that a certain suspect was known to him, Harrison would feel a terrific surge of emotional excitement when asked to identify him. This would "raise his blood pressure from at least 20 to 55 mm, on the machine.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

WOULD UNCOVER WHOLE PLAN

Sat. 8-10-46

"If it were possible to parade all the men resident in Walton and Oconee Counties before him, the lie-detector would show exactly which men were present in the murder mob.

"There might of course, be members whom he did not personally know. It is also possible that he might not be acquainted with any of them, before he saw them at the scene of the crime, as he claims. In this case, the FBI should continue its investigation until other suspects, from other counties, suspected of being present at the scene of the crime, were apprehended.

Pa.

"If the lie-detector indicated that Harrison recognized some suspects as members of the lynch mob, I would then submit them to the test. By suitable questioning, the whole story of the plan to lynch Roger Malcolm could easily be discovered.

"With this evidence, there is little doubt that a number of the guilty parties would confess. More than 70 per cent of all individuals proven guilty by the lie-detector test have confessed their guilt and confirmed its findings."

Marston is the world's foremost authority on deception tests, is the author of "The Lie Detector Test," the only authoritative book on the subject, invited by Gov. Harold G. Hoffman to test Bruno Hauptmann, and is now writing a treatise on the subject for the cyclopaedia of the American Psychological Association.

Monroe Ga. Tribune
Sept. 27, 1946

Colored Pastor Gives Views On Race Relations

(By Rev. O. M. Collins, Pastor, Tabernacle Baptist Church, (Colored), Monroe, Ga.)

34a

As a Negro Minister, having pastored the Tabernacle Baptist Church of Monroe, Georgia, for the past six months, I am naturally concerned over the wide publicity which our community has gained through the recent criminal atrocity which occurred on the outskirts of our county about ten or twelve miles from our town.

The crime has brought down a hail-storm of public opinion from all parts of the country and the world, as expressed through the newspapers, over the radio, and through the numerous letters which have been sent to the city and county authorities and to the press.

Far be it from any of us to minimize this crime against humanity, or even to close our eyes to the implication of us all in mob violence, either directly or indirectly. "For all have sinned and fallen short . . . " On the other hand, it is not quite fair to hold all the white people responsible for the thing which this group of men did (whoever they were, and wherever they came from), just as we, as Negroes en masse, are unjustly held responsible for the crimes and shortcoming of the few among us.

I have talked with many of the white citizens of this community during these recent weeks, and everyone whom I have contacted expresses an abiding hope that the guilty ones will be apprehended and that justice will be meted out to them.

As I get around over the country, people constantly ask me if I am afraid to pastor a church in Monroe since the killing occurred, to which I always reply in the negative, for other than this one incident, I see no evidence or indication that there has ever been any serious racial friction here.

It is my opinion that most of the citizens of both races feel very keenly the stigma that has been placed upon the county because of this crime and are endeavoring to do what they can to restore its good name. Slowly, but, surely, progress is being made toward solving the mystery of this mob violence.

While the race relations here in Monroe are far from what they should be, just as is true, more or less, all over America and the world, still our town compares favorably in that regard with other towns and communities of its size throughout Georgia and the South and, in many respects is superior to some of them.

To cite one or two examples: As far as I have been able to ascertain, Negroes of Monroe were not molested in the matter of voting in the recent Democratic Primary. It is also well to point out that Monroe pays the largest supplement to Negro teachers' salaries of all towns in Georgia except possibly the few largest systems, such as Atlanta, Savannah, and one or two others.

While there is much room for improvement in living conditions here, particularly among the Negroes, it is my honest belief that something is to be done about this matter as rapidly as materials and labor are available.

We are already taking steps which will soon result in the improvement both in the health and sanitation of the community, as well as its beauty and comfort. Tourists who come to Monroe in the future will be able to see gradual signs of improvement along all lines.

Through our churches and schools we are trying to instill in the hearts of our community the doctrine of unity and cooperative effort. For what affects one race is bound sooner or later to be felt by the other group.

We are inevitably tied together in such a way that we must rise or fall together. The impact of the teaching of the Christ of God must be brought to bear upon all the relationships and engagements of our community life.

For the problems of this old world of ours must be solved primarily and ultimately through the religious approach. It is my hope that the perpetrators of the crime above mentioned will all somehow be reached through the preaching of the Gospel, and that they will repent, believe, and be saved. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."

Arnall Finds Ga. Lynchings 'Hot Potato'

Defender 8-24-46 Sat

By EARL CONRAD
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

34a

ATLANTA — The Monroe quadruple lynching has become Gov. Ellis Arnall's dilemma.

The massacre, coinciding with Arnall's primary defeat owing to the county unit system, has deflated the Governor, given him the most serious problem of his career, and threatens to stymie his hopes for Federal office in 1948. If he does not make arrests he may lose out, and if he does, the doddering halls of justice in Georgia may prevent a conviction, which would mean he would lose [illegible] with the governor-

For the massacre of the four Walton County Negroes, it can now definitely be asserted, was but a pawn in Talmadge's political game.

In fact, this correspondent can report that throughout Georgia there is wide suspicion that Talmadge himself may have given the green light for "the Hester kinfolks" to snuff out the lives of the two men at least.

"Cooked It Up"

34a

It is a well-known fact in Atlanta among the police and the political leaders that old Barney Hester, father of young Hester who was knifed by the lynched Malcolm, talked with Talmadge and the expression, "They cooked it up together" is current in Georgia.

Defender

When the dust settled after the Georgia primary Gov. Ellis Arnall came out with more prestige nationally than did Talmadge, even if the latter won on the fluke of the county unit system, Arnall's stock mounted and he loomed closer as the compromise of vice presidential candidate in the 1948 elections in case Wallace should not be satisfactory to the Democratic convention. The talk in Atlanta is that Talmadge needed to cut off the head that showed up higher than his even in defeat, and that he timed the lynching so as to embarrass his rival.

Arnall "Popped Out"

Arnall popped out of his office after the lynching and he has not been back since. The Negroes of Atlanta say that he has not been seeing them since the election but he saw them aplenty before the election. There is speculation that Arnall may be hoping the case will die out. Others say Arnall's political future hangs on this issue that he must make a fight and he must win. They contend he can either order arrests, or throw the baby into the lap of the Federal Government. Although it is considered unlikely that he will do the latter, the talk is that if he did, he'd get rid of the problem and at the same time make his strongest bid for 1948.

Arnall, is surrounded by Klansmen, by reactionaries who might try to stop him from moving on the case and who have already pressured him to "wait and see." But waiting and seeing may be fatal for him. There is a theory, not unlikely, that if Arnall tries to brush off the situation, Talmadge himself, should he become governor, might put on a fluke trial and fine a few of the lynchers a few dollars apiece, steal Arnall's thunder and close his own case.

Chicago, Ill.

"X" Marks

On the tree before which the two couples were lined up and shot there are now four deeply cut "X" marks, one for each black soul destroyed. Over these Klan markings hangs a chain with an iron circle at the end—the whole thing a gruesome symbol of "Southern tradition." Sat. 8-24-46

It is Arnall's political neck which may yet fit into that iron circle if he thinks he can by-pass the issue. Atlanta Negroes have mobilized for an all-out defense fight, have raised large sums, and it is they, joined by allies throughout the country, who will decide what happens to Arnall.

This correspondent went to Georgia after I had arranged with Thad Buchanan, aide to Governor Arnall, for an interview with Arnall. I carried on an unofficial level, a message from PAC leaders, several Congressmen and leaders of a half dozen of the interracial organizations. It was a message of concern for his political future rather than a message of protest. Arnall passed me up, and so did his aide after my arrival. They are playing a clever political game the nature of which is not yet clear.

Arnall is toying with his political future.

Georgia Massacre Arouses Nation; Action Demanded

~~The Afro-American~~

Baltimore, Md. Sat 8-3-46

WASHINGTON.

34a

A flood of protests flowed into the White House over the week end as a nation aroused over the cold-blooded, inhuman massacre of four Georgians demanded that President Truman use his full executive powers to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Behind most of the protests coming from individuals, as well as well-known national organizations, was the implied belief that the election of Eugene Talmadge to the Governorship of Georgia on a "white supremacy" platform was responsible for the brutal incident. Protestants pointed out unless action is taken in this case, others would quickly occur.

"These murders are 'white supremacy' in action," charged the Civil Rights Congress, in a statement announcing the offer of a $1000 reward for information leading to the punishment of the lynchers.

Even Remove Robes

34a

"Talmadge has so encouraged the Klan that the mob even dispensed with Klan robes," the statement said. "What will happen if Talmadge goes through with the appointment of Klan officials to high public office in the State?"

President Truman was urged to "speak out in strong words condemning this tragic crime," in a wire directed to the White House from former Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell, now retired on his Virginia farm near Petersburg.

"Dear Mr. President," the telegram read, "I know that you, along with millions of Americans, were shocked to hear of the lynching of four colored citizens, two of them women, at Monroe, Ga., Thursday night.

34a

"This murder of good American citizens is bound to have repercussions throughout the world, and especially at the Peace Conference where we are told that America is taking the lead in the fight for the protection and the right of minority groups in other parts of the world.

Part of KKK Program

"This black crime just committed in Georgia, following closely the close of the bitter campaign which the successful candidate for Governor promised to ride roughshod over every civil and political right of the colored people of Georgia, seems to be a part of the Talmadge Ku Klux dominated program. The Afro-American

"If unchecked it will now spread and cause race violence in other parts of the South. It is the hope and fervent desire of good citizens in all parts of the country that you, chief executive of the nation, will speak out in strong words condemning this tragic crime and mob violence wherever it is resorted to."

Two other Congressmen in telegrams urged Federal action. They were Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.) and Adam C. Powell (Dem., N.Y.). Baltimore, Md.

Mr. Marcantonio wired Mr. Truman: "Massacre of four American citizens in Monroe, Ga., requires prompt U.S. Government intervention. Unless immediate Government action is taken there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbos and Talmadges. This present outrage cannot be overlooked. I respectfully urge that you act now."

Mr. Powell, in a telegram to Attorney General Tom Clark, demanded that the "Department of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' and bring charges against the Georgia murders and the South Carolina 'Hitlers.'" Sat. 8-3-46

Frank L. Stanley, president of Association, wired President Truman from Chicago:

"In view of your fine record for justice, decency and right, the board of directors of the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association in session in Chicago respectfully calls upon you to make an immediate and thorough investigation of the brutal lynching of four persons including two women near Monroe, Ga., July 25, and to see that the perpetrators of these cowardly murders are brought to justice. We also urge the immediate removal from office of Sheriff W. E. Gordon who say 'There is nothing else I can do.'

"This lynching shows the breakdown of Constitutional protection for American citizens in the South. We fear that unless the influence of your office is enlisted to insure equal protection under the Constitution for all citizens, there will be a mounting wave of violence and bloodshed.

"We implore you to direct a message to Congress urging enactment of a Federal anti-lynching law. Should Congress adjourn without such action, we respectfully ask you to summon Congress in special session to restore and preserve law and order in America.

White Sends Protest

Walter White, secretary of the Justice immediately investigate NAACP, joined the parade of protestors Saturday when he addressed the following telegram to the President:

"Two reputable citizens and their wives were lynched in Walton County, Ga., which is a direct result of conspiratorial campaign to violate Federal Constitution by Eugene Talmadge and the Ku Klux Klan.

"We urge you to bring all pressure and prestige of your office to check current outbreak of lawlessness which threatens not only minorities but democracy itself. Unless this is done, we are certain that very dark days are ahead."

In a letter addressed to Attorney General Clark, the Southern Negro Youth Congress, through its secretary, Esther V. Cooper, demanded that a full scale investigation of the atrocity be made by his department.

The Congress urged Clark to inaugurate martial law in Walton County, conduct a house-to-house search of white communities for weapons and that J. L. Harrison, white farmer, sole witness to the lynchings, be jailed as an accomplice.

Adds $500 to Reward

Dr. Guy D. Johnson, executive secretary of the Southern Regional Council, in adding $500 to the $10,000 reward posted by the State of Georgia, made a plea for other organizations to boost the total sum payable to anyone giving information leading to the identification of the lynchers.

Terming the killing the "most inhuman, cold-blooded murder that has happened in the South in many years, Dr. Johnson pointed out that if the reward was made large enough, "someone who was with the gang of killers will talk."

Eugene Talmadge, vacationing at Cheyenne, Wyo., whose race-baiting campaign was deemed responsible for the increase in violence, when told of the lynchings, said, "Things like that are to be regretted." He would make no other comment.

Talmadge had declared in an interview that "nothing can be gained by giving equal rights to someone with an artificial civilization that has been forced upon him only 150 years."

First in a Year

The lynching was the first in the nation in nearly a year, and was the first multiple lynching nce two fourteen-year-old colored boys charged with attempted rape were hanged by a mob at Quitman, Miss., in October, 1942.

It was the first lynching of more than one person in Georgia since May 19, 1918. Six colored persons were lynched in Brooks County then. One of the persons lynched was a woman who dared protest the lynching of her husband the day before. There have been nine instances of multiple lynchings in the State since 1892.

Lynchings have declined steadily in the last decade. Last year only one lynching was recorded by Taskegee Institute. It occurred in Madison, Fla., in August, 1945, when a colored man was taken out of jail and shot to death.

In 1933 there were 28 lynchings in 11 States. By 1939 there were only three lynchings in two States. In 1940, the figure rose to five, but it dropped to four in 1941. In 1942 there were five again, in 1943 three and in 1944, two.

Lynchings have taken a sharp downward curve in the last half-century. The all-time high was in 1892, when 231 were recorded, according to the figures of the Southern Regional Council in Atlanta.

34a 34a

Action Also Asked of UN

Also requesting action in the case was the National Negro Congress, which in identical telegrams to President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark also asked Federal investigation and prosecution of the known slayer of Macio Snipes, a veteran, in Butler County, Ga.

At the same time, Max Yergan, NNC president, revealed that copies of the telegrams had been sent to Trygve Lie, secretary general of the United Nations, as substantiation of the congress's contention that plight of minorities in America demands investigation.

7455

TALMADGE CLOSE TO LYNCH FIGURES, PAPER CHARGES

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 8-17-46

34a/ra

NEW YORK — Governor-Nominate Eugene V. Talmadge held a meeting with Bob Hester, Walton County cotton planter and landlord of Roger Malcolm, one of the victims in the mass lynching of four Georgia Negroes in Monroe on July 25, two days after the young Negro sharecropper was arrested, a newspaper here charged last week.

In its story revealing the meeting, the Daily Worker declared that Talmadge conferred directly with the landlord, who is the father of Barnett Hester, also a cotton planter. Barnett, the Worker states, had been gassed two days before this meeting in a fight with Roger Malcolm that almost ended in a lynching there and then.

Talmadge, the Worker states, had a long talk with Hester at the courthouse after his speech of June 26 in which he declared Georgia Negroes would never vote again if he became governor. The many Talmadge conferences with the landlords of Walton County came about because he was alarmed, the paper states, at the growing political consciousness of the county's Negroes.

The registration lists then revealed that 810 of them, men and women, intended to vote in Monroe on the plantations.

She Knew Leader of Mob...Now She's Dead

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

34a Sat. 8-3-46

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

MONROE, Ga.—Because attractive 20-year-old Dorothy Malcolm shouted aloud the name of the leader of the mob which was taking her husband and her brother, she is dead today. This is the story as related by J. Loy Harrison, "convenient-memoried" Oconee County farmer, who still remains the key-figure in the brutal mass lynching of four people near here last Thursday afternoon.

After Harrison's car had been stopped and the two men had been forced out of the car, Mrs. Malcolm made the tragic mistake that cost her and Mrs. Mary Dorsey, also twenty, their lives.

Mrs. Malcolm recognized one of the mob members, according to Harrison, and shouted out his name.

Malcolm insists that he did not recognize the name Mrs. Harrison shouted.

However, Harrison said that as soon as the mob leader heard the woman's involuntary scream, he shouted to several of the armed men.

"Get those damn bitches, too, they've recognized me."

Harrison was told to "get out" when, following the volleys that leveled the four people (three of them innocent of any wrong doing), he was asked if he recognized any of the unmasked murderers, and replied negatively.

He called Sheriff Gordon from the nearest telephone, four miles away.

When the sheriff reached the scene, he said the two men were still entangled in the ropes with which they were bound. The women were sprawled nearby in grotesque positions.

Violation of Civil Liberties

Congressional Record

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

8-2-46

HON. HELEN GAHAGAN DOUGLAS

OF CALIFORNIA

34a

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 1946

Mrs. DOUGLAS of California. Mr. Speaker, under permission to revise and extend my remarks in the RECORD, I include a release from the Department of Justice, dated July 30, 1946, protesting the recent mass murder in Monroe, Ga.:

Attorney General Tom C, Clark disclosed today that the Department of Justice has received hundreds of telegrams and letters from public-spirited citizens and civic, religious, labor, and veterans' organizations from all sections of the Nation deploring and protesting the recent mass murder in Monroe, Ga.

34a

Mr. Clark stated: "These communications are too numerous to be answered at once by my office. I am, therefore, making public, through the press, the progress of the immediate and complete Federal investigation which began, at my direction, last Friday, July 26, as soon as the news of the crime reached Washington.

"The Federal Bureau of Investigation has a sufficient force of agents on hand to provide a thorough probe and the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice is examining the legal and jurisdictional aspects of the case. The probe is being carried on in the tradition of the FBI—with dispatch, efficiency, and determination. The full facilities of the Department of Justice are behind this investigation.

8-2-46

"We hope for an early solution of these shocking murders. The entire record of our investigation will be made available to the Governor of Georgia, if necessary, for proper action of Georgia civil authorities.

"This crime is an affront to decent Americanism. Only due process of law sustains our claim to orderly self-government. I call upon all our citizens to repudiate mob rule and to assist the authorities to bring these criminals to justice. The lives and liberties of none of us are safe when forces of terror operate outside the laws of God and man.

"I have talked with the President regarding this case and he has expressed to me his horror at the crime, and his sympathy for the families of the victims. He has asked that the Department report its progress in the investigation and proceed with all its resources to investigate this and any other crimes of oppression to ascertain if any Federal statute can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals."

India Newspaper Condemns Ga. Quadruple Lynching

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md

Sat. 8-24-46

NEW DELHI, India (ANP)—"The lynching of two colored men and their wives in the State of Georgia cannot be dismissed as an isolated act of white terrorism," writes the daily Hindustan Times, the Indian Congress organ.

34a

The paper further added that the responsibility for the lynching crimes must be shared by all those who, ever since the abolition of slavery, have, in any way managed to deny colored people most of their citizenship rights.

Legislation Must Do Job

Advocating a determined attempt to abolish every trace of racial discrimination by legislation, the journal further stated that "where the disease is so deep rooted, it is not appeal to Christian sentiment which is going to help.

Lynching in Georgia

Congressional Record

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

8-2-46

HON. JOHN KEE

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 1946

Mr. KEE. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Appendix of the RECORD, I include a copy of a telegram from former Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell, of Illinois, to President Truman on the matter of the recent lynching in Georgia:

34a

PETERSBURG, VA., *July 27, 1946.*

President HARRY S. TRUMAN,

The White House, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I know that you, along with millions of Americans were shocked some days ago to hear of the lynching of four colored citizens (two of them women) at Monroe, Ga., Thursday night. This mass murder of good American citizens is bound to have its repercussions throughout the world, and especially at the Peace Conference, where we are told that America is taking the lead in the fight for the protection and the rights of minority groups in other parts of the world. This black crime just committed in Georgia following closely the close of the bitter campaign in which the successful candidate for governor promised to ride roughshod over every civil and political right of the colored people of Georgia seems to be a part of the Talmadge-Ku Klux dominated program, and if not checked now will spread and cause race violence in other parts of the South. It is the hope and fervent desire of good citizens in all parts of the country that you, Chief Executive of the Nation, will speak out in strong words condemning this tragic crime and mob violence wherever it is resorted to.

I am,

Very sincerely, 8-2-46

ARTHUR W. MITCHELL,

Formerly Member of Congress from First Illinois District, Chicago, Ill.

Will Stay In Ga., Citizens Tell Chronicle Editor

Chronicle Detroit, Mich.

Sat. 8-10-46

By RUSS J. COWANS

Since my return from Monroe, Ga., last week, a number of persons have asked me if Negroes intend to leave the little city in droves, following the lynching of four colored persons by a mob of 20 or 30 unmasked white men, July 25.

34a

This question was asked by persons in Atlanta, Chattanooga, Chicago, and Detroit.

Bulk Will Stay Ga.

While some of the Negroes living in Monroe and the immediate vicinity believe it is hopeless to remain in this cotton mill city, the bulk of them, judging from conversations I had with them, will not pull up and leave.

"Yes, that was a terrible thing to happen," said one, "but leaving will not solve the problem. As I see it, we have a job to do right here in Walton County, and we can only do it by staying here."

One of the big accomplishments by Negroes in Monroe during the past year was the formation of the Civic League of Walton County last February. Daniel W. Young, undertaker, was named president of the club.

The club organized every sharecropper, farmer, businessman, and worker in the two cotton mills in Monroe, in addition to the workers in homes of whites. The Chronicle

3,000 Eligible

Of the almost 3,000 Negro residents in Monroe, the club found 310 who were eligible to vote. These prospective voters were given instructions in the use of the ballot at meetings held in the two undertaking establishments, the school and the two churches.

34a

When the Democratic primary came up last month, the 310 Negro voters in Monroe were among the 100,000 throughout Georgia who helped to pile up 314,421 votes for James Carmichael. But Eugene (Red Gallus) Talmadge, who preached "white supremacy" to collect 305,777 votes, won because of the unit system in Georgia.

In his pre-election campaign, Talmadge said he was opposed to Negroes having the right to vote, but this has not caused Negroes in Monroe to discontinue their educational program for voters.

Like Voting

"We've had a slice of voting and it tastes very good, and Talmadge will not prevent us from doing it again," said one of the members of the Civic League of Walton County. Detroit, Mich

There are two undertaking establishments in Monroe operated by Negroes, a taxicab service, six cafes, two barber shops and one grocery store.

Negroes living in Monroe are employed in either the Walton or Monroe cotton mills, or in domestic service. Sat. 8-10-46

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 10, 1946

Lynchings Held Mar to U. S. Weight

The Walton County lynching of four Negroes probably has been discussed "behind the scenes" at the Paris Peace Conference, and the influence of Secretary of States Byrnes has been considerably lessened "because of this atrocious crime," in the opinion of a nationally known Atlanta Negro educator.

34a

Dr. Rufus E. Clement, president of Atlanta University, Thursday told 63 graduates in the first summer commencement exercises since the affiliation of the Atlanta Negro colleges in 1929:

"Because America is the greatest exponent of the democratic form of government and consequently acts as a testing ground, whatever happens in America has repercussions around the world."

The following were awarded degrees:

School of Arts and Sciences, Master of Arts, Emmett Gassaway Kellogg, New York, N. Y.; Frances Mason Franklin, Ponca City, Okla.; Grace Haynes Barker, Atlanta; Daisy Winton, Birmingham, Ala.; Joseph Conrad Anderson, Savannah; Mary Shute Fitzgerald, Charlotte, N. C.; Milton Perry Rookes, Clearwater, Fla.; Thelma Elizabeth Bradford, Hartford, Conn.; Inez Gay Johnson, Atlanta; Harriet Elizabeth Williams, Greenville, S. C., and Dorothy Slade, Reidsville, N. C.

Master of Science: Gerard Jackson Benson, Washington, D. C.; Ernest Herne Lafontant, Port au Prince, Haiti; Robert Lee Scott, Comer, and Otis White, Jr., Atlanta.

School of Education, Master of Arts: Mable Carlotte Brown, Wilmington, N. C.; Frederick Douglass Browne, Elberton; Grayce Willette DeBerry, Greensboro, N. C.; Margaret B. Walker, Fayetteville, and Clemmie Omogene Williams, of Gary, Indiana.

Master of Education: Erma Luelle Abercrombie, Girard, Ala.; Mary Lou Anderson, Summerton, S. C.; Nina Williams Anthony, Scotland Neck, N. C.; Robert Elliott Blakely, Waynesboro; Beatrice Foulés Cook, New London, Conn.; Annie Eichelberger Daniels, Augusta; Lillian Davis, Jacksonville, Fla., and Wellington G. Dixon, Savannah.

Sadie Robinson Gaither, Atlanta; Donella J. Graham, Cuthbert; Lola G. Jenkins, Atlanta; Ethel W. Kight, Newnan; Helen Andrews Martin, Atlanta; Sari Phillips Mayo, Griffin; Effie E. McGhee, Atlanta; Bessie J. McLendon, Ailey; Annie L. Motley, West Palm Beach, Fla., and Joann Moore Parks, Atlanta.

Marguerite Ella Porter, Sellars, S. C.

74/55

We Were Ten Miles Offside On the Georgia Lynching

The Saturday Evening Post
Philadelphia 34a Sat. 11-2-46

ABOUT the only consolation to be found in the fact that we have been wrong twice in locating the notorious Georgia lynching is the vigor of the protests from the localities in question. The people of Georgia are ashamed of lynching even though their political judgments do not always make this clear. Like Daniel Hicky, of the Atlanta Constitution, they want the rest of the country to remember that "this particular crime has happened not only in Georgia and the South but in the United States as well; that it is, in reality, an indictment of mankind everywhere, and its baser instincts."

We would be the last to deny that impeachment, but in our first comment we unfortunately placed the lynching in Monroe County, Georgia. We were immediately and angrily informed that the crime took place in Monroe, Walton County, and not in Monroe County. We corrected, or thought we corrected, that misstatement, whereupon residents of Monroe, Walton County, hastened to explain that, despite the date lines on the press accounts, Monroe was not the scene of the lynching. It occurred at a place called Moore's Ford, in Walton County, about ten miles to the northeast of Monroe. Some of the correspondents point out that the four Negroes were murdered only some fifty feet inside the Walton County line, which causes them to suspect that the lynching party came from outside the county altogether. But we are not going to be trapped into any uninformed speculation as to where the mobsters came from.

Suffice it to say that the Post's experience with this sad event should serve as heartening news to the whole country that the representative people of the South react with shame and remorse to the savage brutality of lynch mobs. They are up in arms if the news put them within ten miles of a lynching. We only hope it will be as difficult to find another lynching in Georgia or anywhere else in the U. S. A. as it has been for us to put this one at the right spot on the map.

National GRAPEVINE

Defender By CHARLEY CHEROKEE

Of Thee I Sing

Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-10-46

NEGRO VETERANS see what they fought for. Columbia, Tenn. —two Negroes shot to death, 25 jailed, nothing done about it by the city, state or Federal government. Aiken, S.C.—Negro vet's eyes gouged out, nothing done ditto. Monroe, Ga.—Negro vet, his wife, his friend and friend's wife shot to death in cold blood, ditto. Lexington, Miss.—Negro beaten to death by six white mobsters, mobsters "indicted." Add this one you didn't know about. Only Negro who voted in Taylor County, Ga. shot to death in his own home by four white mobsters, mobsters freed by Grand Jury because "they acted in self defense."

34a

President Truman is raising hell about it, and Atty. General Tom Clark and FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover are making lots of smoke but little fire. Some facts FBI has uncovered which you'll never hear about: (1) Harrison, the white farmer who [illegible] the victims in Monroe was part of the mob. (2) The [illegible] only 10 men all known to everybody. (3) Arms of the [illegible] before they were killed.

Prominent white and colored citizens who have called at the White House have all been referred to Dave Niles the adviser on race matters. Dave "protects" Truman—after all these people are only worried about their life, personal safety and civil rights, and little things like that. The President is busy with real important things like bluffing Russia and the price of automobiles. (That's what we say John Henry, to hell with that.)

Rewards total over $30,00 including the $2,000 offered by the Defender. But nobody's talking until it's clear the reward is for information "leading to arrest of any one of the mobsters." Gamblers' odds against any indictments, 10 to 1, against convictions, 100 to 1. Officials say it's hard to justify having the FBI in because "no civil rights appear to have been violated." The four lynched Negroes must feel pretty good to know that although their faces are shot to pieces, their civil rights are still whole.

Negroes Visited At Moore's Ford Sunday Afternoon

Monroe, Ga., Tribune
Sept. 13, 1946

Fifty or more cars of negroes passed through Monroe last Saturday afternoon, and upon arrival here a brief stop was made, when one of them inquired of Officer Harold Jones direction to Moore's Ford.

34a

The negroes stated that they desired to visit the scene of the July 25 lynching, in order to hold a prayer and song service as a memorial to the four negroes slain there on that date.

Officer Jones directed the negroes to the spot they were looking for, and The Tribune is told that the crowd was a most orderly one, resembling a funeral procession.

The crowd returned through Monroe about 7 o'clock, still quiet and orderly, on their return to Atlanta. It is understood that they came from the Negro Baptist Convention, which attracted large numbers to the Georgia capital last week.

Augusta, Ga., Chronicle
July 30, 1946

Arnall Exhorts Agents to Spur Lynching Probe

Talmadge Sympathizes, Predicts Few Crimes In His Administration

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 29. (UP)—Stating that "civilization is incensed over this atrocity," Governor Ellis Arnall today exhorted state agents working with the FBI to redouble their efforts to ferret out the desperadoes who lynched four Negroes in Walton county near Monroe last Thursday.

Governor-designate Eugene Talmadge, back from a California vacation sympathized with Arnall's "chargin and embarrassment" over the lynching and predicted that such crimes would be at a minimum during his own forthcoming administration.

In a statement on returning to his Atlanta law offices, Talmadge said it was regrettable when mob violence "occurs in any section of the country." He added that "there was a great deal of mob violence in Detroit, Chicago and other parts of the country during the past few years."

"The people of Georgia always sympathized with other sections when such occurrences happened and the better-thinking people of Georgia knew that it was not a reflection on the state or the people of the state but only on the individuals who committed the crime," Talmadge said.

Arnall pointed out that the FBI now had six men working on the lynching, apparently moving in on the grounds that civil rights were violated in the drumhead execution of two Negro field hands and their wives.

Major W. E. Spence of the state bureau of investigation reporting that the case was being "unraveled," hinted that identity of some of the 20 or more men in the lynching party was strongly suspected. He indicated that he was searching for sufficient evidence to warrant arrests but denied reports that any persons had yet been taken into custody and formally charged.

Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton county said that he was turning over the investigation in its entirety to state and federal agents because "we feel they are better qualified to handle this case than we are."

Negroes Picket White House in Lynch Protest

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 7, 1946

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—(U.P.). The White House Wednesday was picketed by some two dozen Negroes asking President Truman to take resolute action to punish the lynchers of four Negroes in Georgia.

34a

Mr. Truman, shortly after the lynchings, instructed the FBI to use all its resources to find the persons responsible.

The marchers were headed by Elder Charles Beck, a Pittsburgh radio preacher. They carried signs directed at Governor-Nominee Eugene Talmadge of Georgia, Senator Theodore G. Bilbo (Democrat, Mississippi), and Representative John Rankin (Democrat, Mississippi).

One of the signs said, "You can run, Bilbo, Talmadge and Rankin, but you cannot hide."

Beck told reporters he would hand to Attorney General Tom Clark petitions asking that martial law be declared in Monroe, where the lynchings occurred, until the killers are found, and that Congress pass a fair employment practices act and an antilynching law. These petitions also asked for the arrest of Loy Harrison, who had bailed the Negroes who were lynched out of jail and was driving them to his farm when the attack occurred.

As Beck led the pickets, he carried a large key, about 1½ feet long and covered with gilt. He said it represented the key to political power in the Northern states which Negroes control through their votes. He said he would give it to Clark to be presented to Mr. Truman, but he added that the President would not have the political support of Negroes unless he took effective action in the Georgia case.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 8, 1946

Groups Over Nation Deplore Walton Killings

Federal and state police officers continued Thursday to run down clues that might lead to the arrest of those responsible for the lynching of four Walton County Negroes, while church, veteran, and civic groups throughout the nation passed resolutions condemning the lynching which occurred July 25.

34a

In Atlanta 75 members of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church declared they were "shocked and horrified" by the lynching.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 7007 of East Point also urged that the investigations be pressed until those guilty are brought to trial.

The Little Five Points Lions Club declared:

"There is no liberty, intelligence, or justice in mob conspiracies based on hate and opposed to every human and Christian sentiment."

Atlanta Negroes were the nucleus of a Citizens' Defense Committee which was organized to raise funds to aid the families of mob-violence victims. The group petitioned President Truman and Governor Ellis Arnall to redouble their efforts to apprehend the Walton County slayers.

The Fort Valley, Ga., Baptist Church's Men's Bible Class also condemned the Walton County crime and expressed hope that all good citizens would assist police by giving them any information they may have that could lead to solution of the case.

In Knoxville, Tenn., a chapter of the American Veterans Committee wrote Governor Arnall saying that it was raising a fund to assist in the investigation.

New Orleans religious groups heard Dr. David Fichman declare that white supremacy and racial prejudice should be forgotten, and the Rev. Thomas McNamara termed the lynching "a disgrace, not only to Georgia, but to the whole nation."

Bridgeport, Conn. clergymen also deplored the incident, and large mass meetings to protest the occurrence were held in New York and Washington.

7456

Mr. Talmadge, Here Is Your Lynch Record as Governor

The Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 8-11-46

34a

Governor-elect Eugene Talmadge states that no lynchings occurred in Georgia during his tenure of office. Mr. Talmadge served three terms as Governor of Georgia, two consecutive two-year terms, from 1933 to 1936, and from 1941 through 1942. During those years we had fourteen recorded lynchings in the Peachtree State. This indicates that Mr. Talmadge is a liar. Here is the record:

1933—four

Will Kinsey . . . at hands of mob, Warrenton—May 14; T. J. Thomas . . . found hanging from a tree, Newton—June 13; Richard Marshall . . . found hanging from a tree; body perforated with nine bullet holes—Newton—June 16; Sevie Davis . . . taken from jail, beaten, shot to death by a mob, Lumpkin, October 24.

1934—one

Curtis James . . . taken from his home by a mob and killed at Darien—October 7.

1935—two

Lewis Harris . . . taken from sheriff, hanged at Vienna—September 28; "Bo" Brinson . . . beaten, shot to death by a posse said to be searching for another Negro accused of killing a white man—Moultrie—October 16.

1936—five

Philip Baker . . . hanged, shot by a mob at Cusseta—March 14; Lint Shaw . . . shot to death by a mob at Cuthbert—April 28; John Rushin . . . shot to death by a mob at Tavo—May 3; A. L. McCamy . . . hanged by a mob at Dalton—September 6; Tom Finch . . . shot to death in an Atlanta hospital where he was an orderly; accused of raping a white woman—September 12.

1941—two

Pvt. Felix Hall . . . volunteer; found hanging from a tree at Fort Benning; Robert Sapp . . . suspected of stealing from his employer; beaten by fellow white employes and died of "pneumonia" at Blakely—May 6.

THE VOICE OF THE RECORD

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 12, 1946

Talmadge Regimes Show 14 Alleged Lynchings

(Hist.)

34a

Challenging a statement by Governor-Nominee Eugene Talmadge that there were no lynchings in Georgia during his three terms as Governor, the Southern Regional Council has released a list of 14 Georgia deaths which listed by Tuskegee Institute as lynchings during the former Talmadge regimes.

When shown the list Mr. Talmadge said he had "no comment."

Lindley Camp, who served as adjutant general during the first two Talmadge administrations, declared that he had never heard of any of the lynchings listed.

"I think all this talk about lynchings is pure hokum," he said. "I was the one who told Mr. Talmadge there were no lynching during his terms in office, and, if there were, I certainly did not hear of them.

Mr. Camp explained that on several occasions he had gone personally or sent National Guard troops to protect prisoners in various parts of the state.

"I remember going to Danielsville, Moultrie, and Homer," he said, "and I am pretty sure there were several other instances."

He recalled taking a Negro from the Danielsville jail in the spring of 1936 and putting him in the Macon jail for safekeeping, but he did not recall the disposition of the case.

The council's list is as follows:

1. Warrenton, Warren County, May 11, 1933: Will Kinsey, Negro farm tenant, taken from a doctor's office where he had gone to be treated for gunshot wounds and shot to death by a mob of 50. He was accused of firing the shot that killed a white man in a gun battle between two Negroes and four white men.

2. Newton, Baker County, June 12, 1933: T. J. Thomas, Negro, taken from his home, hanged, and shot a week after a white man died from a gunshot wound in a fight with Negroes. Two Negroes arrested at the time were removed for safekeeping. Thomas was not in the fight.

Baker County Incident

3. Newton, Baker County, June 17, 1933: Richard Marshall, Negro, taken by mob and shot and hanged on the spot where a white man had been killed the previous December.

4. Lumpkin, Stewart County, October 23, 1933: Cephus Davis, Negro, beaten and shot to death by mob which took him from the Richland city jail. Davis had assaulted an officer who arrested him for drunkenness.

5. Darien, McIntosh County, October 9. 1934: A mob of 14 "turpentine bootleggers," two of them Negroes, surrounded the shack of James Curtis, Negro, another bootlegger, and opened fire. Curtis fired back. Later Curtis reported missing. (This case admittedly is open to question as to whether it was a lynching, the council stated.)

6. Vienna, Dooley County, September 28, 1935: Lewis Tarris, Negro, in custody for resisting arrest and forcing Sheriff Bob Vinson to relinquish a prisoner, was taken from the sheriff by a mob in four automobiles as he was being taken out of the county for "safekeeping." He was hanged, and his body was riddled with bullets.

7. Moultrie, Colquitt County, October 17, 1935: "Bo" Bronson, Negro, was beaten and shot by a posse hunting for another Negro believed to have murdered a white man. Bronson died shortly after being admitted to a hospital.

Hanged and Shot

8. Cusseta, Chattahoochee County, March 14, 1936; Philip Baker, Negro, accused of attacking two white women, was hanged and shot by a mob which took him from Chattahoochee County officers while he was being transferred from Macon to Columbus.

9. Danielsville, Madison County, April 28, 1936: Lint Shaw, Negro, was shot to death by a mob of 40 men eight hours before he was to go on trial on a charge of attempted criminal assault. The mob broke into the jail at Royston where Shaw had been taken for safekeeping, the third jail in which the prisoner had been held.

10. Pavo, Thomas County, May 3, 1936: John Rushin, Negro, was snatched from a deputy sheriff by mob of 200 men and shot to death in revenge for the slaying of a white man.

11. Dalton, Whitfield County, September 6, 1936: A. L. McCamy, Negro, accused of an attempted attack on a white woman, was taken from the county jail by a mob of about 150 and hanged.

In Fulton County

12. Atlanta, Fulton County, September 12, 1936: Tom Finch, Negro, taken from his home under the pretense that he was under arrest. Twenty minutes later his body was dumped at Grady Hospital door. Police said he had resisted arrest and attempted to harm an officer, and that he had been shot while fleeing. Hospital records revealed he "was shot five times in the breast."

13. Atlanta, Fulton County, December 23, 1936: Mack Henry Brown, Negro apartment house janitor, shot, handcuffed, bound, and thrown in Chattahoochee. Body found at Roswell several weeks after he had allegedly insulted an Atlanta white woman by kissing her hand. Coroner said death was at the hand of party or parties unknown.

14. Blakely, Early County, May 6, 1941: Robert Sapp, Negro, suspected of stealing from his employer, beaten unconscious with a club and piece of machine belting by three men. Died several days later.

Monroe Resident Recalls 50-Year-Old Mass Lynching

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 8-10-46
(Historical)

34a

MONROE, Ga.—(ANP)—An aged resident of this section recalling a mass lynching of eight colored men near here almost 50 years ago said last week there is support for the statement that lynching is a pastime in Oconee, Walton, and Clark Counties of Georgia.

In the turn-of-the-century lynching, the victims were taken from the Watkinsville jail, fastened to a fence and riddled with bullets. A few years later, a colored person was taken from jail in Athens and burned at the intersection of the road leading to Monroe, the resident declared.

RALPH T. JONES

The Constitution

Sensational Press Is Known in England

Atlanta, Ga.
Wed. 12-11-46

Read where they are proposing, in England, a parliamentary investigation of the big, chain newspaper corporations. On the grounds the owners, publishers, do not always present the news without bias.

There have been charges, too, that a segment of the British press is too sensational, is apt to exaggerate, color its stories for the sake of startling the readers.

Which, together with the writing of Monday's column here, recalled to mind an incident which linked Georgia—many years ago—with the British press in a story so sensationally exaggerated it became, though basically tragic, a thing of grim amusement.

If you read Monday's column you may recall it was about the small, traveling shows which played the smaller towns, the villages, even the crossroads, once upon a time.

Well, this story, which traveled all the way from such a crossroads in Georgia to London, concerns such a show.

Long Ago It was many years ago, probably even before the War Between the States, that the first incident of the story occurred.

An exceedingly small, itinerant troupe of entertainers was working the little communities in this State. Maybe it was one of those old-time "Medicine Shows." Admission free. With a girl who did an alleged "song and dance." A magician of sorts. A blackface comedian with a banjo. And a spieler who brought in the revenue by selling Old Doc Whosis Indian Snake Cure for Whatever Ails You.

Anyway, it wasn't much of a show.

One day it arrived, via wagon, in this tiny Georgia community. So small was the place there wasn't even a one-room schoolhouse in which to give the show. Not even a hotel with a sample room. In the emergency, the manager of the troupe borrowed the use of an empty barn. They rigged up some sort of platform at one end, out of old planks, the audience stood, and they gave their show.

The barn lived out its existence in the useful and customary service of a barn and nothing more. That one night was the sole extent of its tinsel thespian glory.

34a (Hist.)

The barn fell into decay. It became too ramshackle for use. It stood, abandoned, in the corner of a field. Its boards fell away until nothing was left but a few upright beams and crosspieces.

Ga.

A Lynching There came a night when a lust-frenzied mob sought a place to lynch a wretched, weeping Negro. They were near the old barn. Someone remembered it and that its old beams would make a handy scaffold on which to tie the rope.

The local correspondent for this paper was an old man. He remembered the one night when the barn had been turned into a show house, of sorts. He mentioned this ancient incident in the story of the lynching he sent to the State editor.

The copy reader on that story had an eye for the picturesque. So, some way, he worked the phrase, "former theater," into the heading he put on the story.

Reached London The story was seen, copied and reprinted in various out-of-State newspapers. It reached London and came to the attention of the editor of a sensational illustrated weekly there.

In transit the adjective "former" had been dropped from the headline. All the London editor saw was that a Negro had been lynched in a Georgia theater. His knowledge of Georgia, her theaters, her people, was practically nil.

The editor called in his staff artist and instructed him to draw a picture of this lynching inside a theater. It was the full-page frontispiece of that paper the following week.

The picture showed the interior of an opera house larger and more elaborate than the Metropolitan in New York ever was. It must have had, that pictured theater, a seating capacity of three or four thousand. It was packed. The entire audience was dressed in elaborate, most formal evening attire, both women and men. There was a tier of boxes filled with buxom dowagers, and their escorts, said dowagers glittering with diamonds enough to fill a year's quota for the mines of Kimberley.

That entire audience was watching, quietly, serenely, with a collective expression of mild interest, as a group of black-hatted, riding-boot-wearing Simon Legrees calmly hanged a Negro on the stage—said stage set for one of the most spectacular scenes in all grand opera!

Yes, the London press has been known to exaggerate.

34a

Georgia Lynching Still Unsolved

A probe by a Federal Grand Jury in Athens, Ga., of the barbaric lynching in Walton County last Summer seems to have ended in failure. And yet there is this slight hope that something else may come of it: U. S. Judge T. Hoyt Davis refused to discharge the jury. He ruled it would be recessed "subject to call."

1946

It seems incredible that a Grand Jury made up of 21 white men and two Negroes, having sat for more than two weeks, hearing evidence and examining more than 100 witnesses (some of them reluctant), should come forth with a report which says: "The members of this body are unanimous in reporting that we have been unable to establish the identity of any person or persons participating in the murders or in any violation of the civil rights statutes of the United States."

Birmingham News

More than a score of FBI agents interrogated more than 2,500 persons within Walton and its neighboring county of Oconee. Not one person has yet come forward with a shred of information looking toward the collection of $30,000 in reward fees now standing for knowledge which will lead to the arrest and conviction of the men who perpetrated the foul deed.

Sat. 12-21-46

Either one of three things would seem to be true:

(1) The mob of approximately 20 armed men who snatched the four Negroes from the white man's car and shot them to death last July 25 was made up of strangers to the whole community and has maintained its private and unsocial integrity ever since. Apparently not one man was recognized by Loy Harrison, the white landowner in whose car the Negroes were being transported. Harrison should have been able to identify one or more of the crowd if they were of local origin. If they were not, then some person of the vicinity should know who they are; otherwise who briefed the mob on what to do and when to do it on that fatal night?

(2) The identity of the mob, at least in part, is well known to people of the neighborhood, but they are too much intimidated to name one or all involved. Fear may be at the basis of the jury's frustration.

Sat 12-21-46

(3) The people of the whole community may be so united in their feelings in the case that they have presented a solid front of defiance to the forces of the law, especially those which have been brought in from outside the county and the state.

Of the three hypotheses, the second one seems the most likely to be true. One would hate to believe that the third represents a popular point of view in this Georgia county. Yet, one would like to ask, if the investigation were carried out with the skill and determination which the FBI is noted for possessing, how in the world could as many as 2,500 people—all of those questioned at one time or another by FBI agents—not have at least one among them who might inadvertently drop a clue that the bulldog tenacity and clever reasoning of the investigators could not work into a break leading to identification of one or more of the killers?

Apparently the judge was himself not too well pleased by the result of the inquiry. His refusal completely to dismiss the jury is evidence that he believes the case is neither closed nor unsolved. Meanwhile the rest of the country marvels at the seeming outcome and those of us in the South who insist on justice being done no matter what the cost or how lowly the defendant are nonplussed and saddened at this latest turn of events.

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full

Do Not Judge County Guilty, Walton Plea

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
Aug. 1, 1946

34a

MONROE, July 31—While Sol. Gen. Marshall Pollock, of Georgia's Western Circuit, in his first statement since the lynching of four Negroes last week, pleaded that the people of Walton County not be held guilty for "the brutal and wanton acts of a few," rewards for information on members of the lynching party jumped to $22,500.

Pollock said he was making his statement because remarks allegedly made by a leader of police investigators had conveyed "the "wrongful impressions" of the vast majority of the people of Walton County.

Meanwhile, in New York, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People offered rewards totaling $10,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the lynching party members, almost matching the $10,500 posted by the State of Georgia.

Pollock apparently was referring to statements by Maj. W. E. Spence, Chief of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, who told newsmen last week he was "unable to cope with the situation" because "the good people in town are afraid to talk."

In one news release, Spence also was quoted as saying he was not getting co-operation from local authorities.

POLLOCK'S STATEMENT

Pollock's statement follows in full:

"This office has made no statement since the regrettable occurrence which took place in our County some days ago because we did not consider it proper or necessary. However, certain admitted misquotations of a leader of the investigation as to the attitude of the authorities and the people of Walton County now make such a statement desirable.

"That leader has corrected the misquotation, but the people of Walton County feel the wrongful impressions conveyed to others interested in justice in many States has not been corrected.

"To those who know the character of the vast majority of the people of Walton County, their fairness, their horror of the crime that had been committed, no explanation is necessary.

"Their desire that the guilty be apprehended is certainly greater than that of people less directly affected. However, they are no more able to point out the guilty or assist authorities than those more remote from the scene of the crime.

ASKED ASSISTANCE

"Local law enforcement authorities are equally desirous of the arrest of the parties guilty of the crime. Their first action was to call in the FBI and the GBI for assistance in the investigation. They were manifestly unable to cope with the situation because they lacked the training and the facilities necessary. Their best efforts have been directed towards co-operating with these agencies since that time.

"All are shocked and grieved at the brutal and wanton acts of a few. No one is trying to escape the responsibility that rests upon them. As the investigation continues we ask only that we be not prejudged, and that we be given an opportunity to justify the faith that many have expressed in us that the principles of law and humanity will be upheld.

"Marshall Pollock, Solicitor General, Western Circuit."

Federal, State and local authorities continued the probe of the quadruple killing Wednesday. A total of six GBI and 12 FBI agents were reported already in Walton County and vicinity, while it was learned from a reliable source that an additional 25 FBI agents would join them soon.

Meanwhile in Atlanta, Gov. Arnall sent a telegram to President Truman during the day, thanking the Chief Executive for Federal co-operation in the investigation of the lynching.

The Governor also sent telegrams of appreciation to Atty. Gen. Clark and Federal Bureau of Investigation Chief J. Edgar Hoover.

Clark announced Tuesday the President had ordered the Department of Justice to use all its resources to arrest the lynchers.

Gov. Arnall's telegram to the President follows:

"I greatly appreciate the full co-operation of the Federal Government, the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in assisting state and local authorities to apprehend the desperadoes who lynched four Negroes in Walton County, Ga., on July 25. The crime against civilization must be punished. Lynchings must stop. Regards."

The Governor has ordered Maj. William E. Spence, head of the State Police, to remain in Walton County until the case is solved.

Spence has placed handbills offering rewards of $14,000 for apprehension of the lynchers in every mail box in five Northeast Georgia counties.

Illinois Legislators Urge Anti-Lynch Law

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., July 31—(AP) The Illinois House of Representatives adopted a resolution Wednesday condemning the "wanton murder" of four Negroes July 25 near Monroe, Ga. The resolution, which awaits Senate action, urged the Georgia Legislature to enact an anti-lynching law similar to the Illinois statute.

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Body of Flogged Negro Identified by Widow

LEXINGTON, Miss., July 31—(UP)—The body of a Negro found in a Mississippi bayou last Wednesday was positively identified by his widow Wednesday as that of Leon McTatie, 35, whom six white men are accused of flogging to death in the South's second recent lynching.

The defendants had admitted flogging McTatie because he reportedly stole a saddle. But they contended that they did not kill him and that the body found near Indianola, 60 miles from the whipping scene, was that of another Negro.

Circuit Judge S. F. Davis had the body exhumed from a Potter's Field and it was identified as McTatie by his wife and two other persons.

County Atty. Pat M. Barrett, who announced the identification, said he would confer with defense attorneys to set an early date for a preliminary hearing at which details of the flogging on or about July 22 may be disclosed.

Johnson City, Tenn. Chronicle
July 29, 1946

Police Are Stymied In Lynch Probe

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 29. (AP)—State police reported today they had run into a "stone wall" in tracking down every lead in the investigation of the multiple Negro lynching near here.

"We have talked to a lot of people and gotten nowhere," said Maj. William E. Spence, head of the state police. "We think we know who some of the members of the mob are, but we can't prove it."

Meanwhile, the congregation of the First Methodist Church here yesterday by resolution called on local and Walton County authorities to cooperate with the state authorities.

The resolution brought a prompt retort from Sheriff E. S. Gordon, who said: "We are ready to cooperate with the state. We've always been ready. It didn't take any resolution for that."

Spence said that the "good people" in Walton county wouldn't talk about the massacre even though some of them "know who members of the gang are."

The state of Georgia, through Gov. Ellis Arnall, has offered $10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of the 20 odd mobsters who shot down four Negroes near here Thursday.

Other organizations have offered additional rewards.

The mob victims—Roger and Dorothy Malcolm and George and Mae Dorsey—were seized from the car of a white farmer, lined up and killed by three volleys of fire from pistols and shotguns.

Roger Malcolm had been under [illegible]00 bond on a charge of stabbing his white employer. Spence said information indicated that the lynching, which went off with precision, had been "well rehearsed."

George Dorsey and Dorothy Malcolm were buried yesterday at Mt. Perry Church, about 15 miles from here. They were brother and sister. Mae Dorsey was buried here.

Funeral services for Dorsey and his sister were delayed for more than two hours while friends waited for the Dorsey family. The family, however, failed to appear. No reason was given by Dorsey's relatives for failure of the immediate family to attend the funeral.

The lynching, first multiple one in the South since 1942. brought the promise for a Negro organization of a mass demonstration in front of the White House in Washington today.

Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress, said in New York yesterday that representatives from various councils of the organization would stage the demonstration in Washington to protest the lynchings. A Harlem protest meeting held under the sponsorship of the Congress yesterday adopted a resolution saying the lynchings came as a direct result of "the campaign of race hate" carried on in the South by Senator Bilbo, Mississippi Democrat, and governor nominate Gene Talmadge of Georgia.

Nashville, Tenn., Banner
July 29 1946

Talmadge Hits Mob Violence; Pledges Action

34a

Monroe, Ga., July 29—(AP)—Governor-nominate Eugene Talmadge expressed belief today that there will be a minimum of such "atrocities" as the lynching of four Negroes here last Thursday during his four-year term starting in January.

The Democratic nominee to succeed Gov. Ellis Arnall issued a formal statement from his Atlanta law office upon his return from a vacation trip in the West.

Moscow, July 29—(UP)—Soviet newspapers today printed without comment a news dispatch reporting the lynching of four Negroes in Georgia.

"During my three terms as Governor of Georgia, there was not a lynching in the state," Talmadge said. "I am very sorry that a lynching did occur under the present governor's administration and I sympathize with him and know that it did cause him chagrin and embarrassment.

"While I am governor, I know that such atrocities will be at a minimum. It is very regrettable that mob violence occurs in any section of the country."

Talmadge added that there was a "great deal of mob violence in Detroit, Chicago and other sections of the country during the past few years" and commented:

"The people of Georgia always sympathized with other sections when such occurrences happened. . . The better thinking people of Georgia knew that it was not a reflection on the state . . . but only on the individuals who committed the crime."

State police reported they had run into a "stone wall" in tracking down every lead in the investigation of the multiple Negro lynching near here.

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The mob victims — Roger and Dorothy Malcom and George and Mae Dorsey—were seized from the car of a white farmer, lined up and killed by three volleys of fire from pistols and shotguns.

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◆

Washington, July 29—(AP)—White House Press Secretary Charles G. Ross told a news conference today President Truman has taken no direct hand in the investigation of the lynching of four Negroes last week near Monroe, Ga.

In answer to another question, Ross said that as far as he knew Mr. Truman had made no arrangements to see a group of Negroes converging on Washington today to protest the Georgia lynching.

Georgia Church Asks Lynchers Be Punished

Asheville, N. C. Citizen
July 29, 1946

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 28. (AP)— A Monroe church congregation called today on local and Walter county authorities to cooperate with state officials in running down members of the armed band which lynched four Negroes near here July 25.

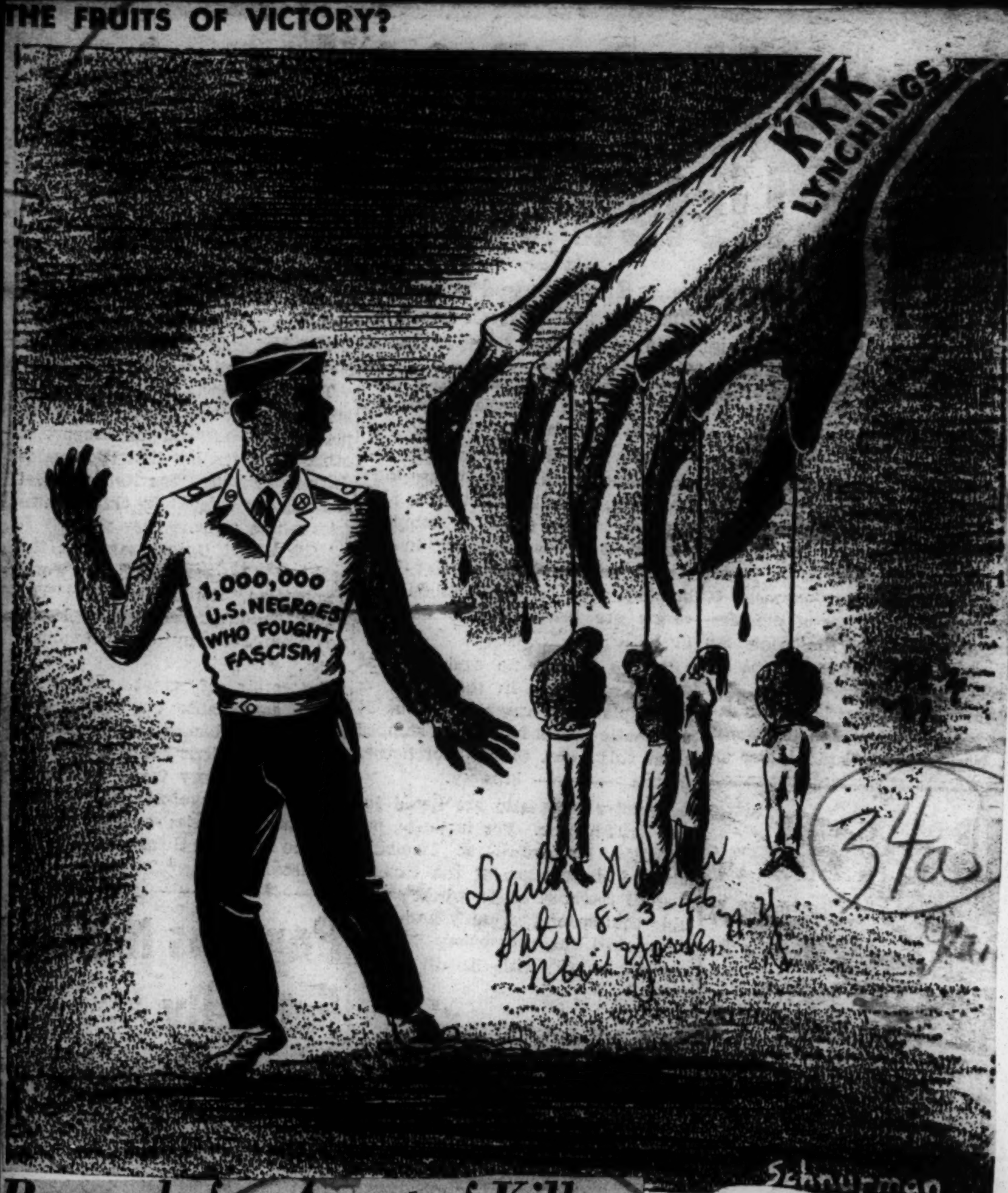
The First Methodist church unanimously adopted a resolution to this effect at its morning church service. Bob Sams, chairman of the resolution committee, said he would ask all other churches in Monroe to adopt similar resolutions.

The resolution, which also condemned "the outrage against humanity," came on the heels of a declaration by Maj. William E. Spence, head of the Georgia state police, that he was not getting co-operation in tracking down the lynching mob.

Spence said the "good people" in Walton county "won't talk about the mass murder" even though some of them "know who members of the gang were."

The four Negroes — Roger and Dorothy Malcolm and George and Mae Dorsey — were seized from the car of J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous white farmer, lined up abreast and killed by three volleys of fire from pistols and shotguns. Roger Malcolm' was under $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his white employer.

THE FRUITS OF VICTORY?


KKK
LYNCHINGS
1,000,000 U.S. NEGROES WHO FOUGHT FASCISM
Schnurman

Daily Worker
Sat 8-3-46
New York, N.Y.

34a

Rewards for Arrest of Killers Of 4 Negroes Rise to $12,500

Times-Dispatch

MONROE, GA., July 28—(UP)—State investigation agents today doggedly pushed their search for clues in the lynching of four Negroes near here last Thursday night, but Major W. E. Spence, state patrol director, said the task would remain "discouraging" unless he received increased co-operation from local officials and citizens.

7-29-46

Spence said he was "starting all over" in running down the few scattered clues, but was frank in blaming apathy of local citizens, who he said were "afraid to talk," for the lack of progress.

Meanwhile, the total of rewards offered for information leading to the arrest of the mob members reached $12,500, with announcement of $1,000 posted by the American Civil Liberties Union, and $500 by the Southern Regional Conference.

Richmond

$10,000 Offered

Governor Ellis Arnall, who denounced the lynching as "mass murder" and a "heinous crime," offered $500 for each member of the mob—a total of $10,000 if the 20-or-more persons said to have composed the lynching group are all caught.

Virginia

A reward of $1,000 was offered by the Civil Rights Congress in New York.

Although the crime was denounced by various groups in all sections of the country, no action has been taken by any civic organization here.

In Valdosta, Ga., Methodist Sunday school classes today called on "the Christian people of Georgia" to take some action." Both Atlanta newspapers editorially asked Walton County citizens here to take the lead in finding and punishing the mob, and Arnall said the killers "must be caught."

Suspect Released

J. Loy Harrison, Oconee County farmer from whose car the four Negroes were seized, could not identify the only suspect picked up in the case to date, and the man was released.

Funeral services for the four victims—two young Negroes and their wives—were held this afternoon, with a large crowd attending.

7-29-46

The victims were Rogers Malcolm, George Dorsey and their wives. Dorsey was a five-year Army veteran with long overseas service.

Local officials believing the

Richmond

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mob action was revenge for Malcolm's alleged stabbing of his former employer, Barney Hester, Jr. Harrison had just secured Malcolm's release from jail on $600 bond, and the four Negroes were being taken to Harrison's farm to work.

Virginia

Hester's condition remained serious in a hospital here, but he was expected to recover.

Birmingham, Ala., News
July 28, 1946

Georgians' Silence Hampers Lynching Inquiry, Police Say

MONROE, Ga., July 27—(AP)—The head of the Georgia State Police told newsmen Saturday that he had been hampered in his investigation of the massacre of four Negroes near here Thursday because "the best people in town won't talk about this."

34a

"They have an idea who it is," the police head, Maj. William E. Spence said. "We've been out on things like this before, but never anything like this."

"When I get back to town (Atlanta) I'm going to ask the governor to appeal to every congressman to help pass federal legislation against mob violence."

Maj. Spence met newsmen shortly after the release of a man who he said fitted the description of the leader of the armed band which waylaid J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer, and the Negroes on the banks of the Appalachee River.

Spence said Harrison failed to identify the man and said the leader of the mob was "20 pounds heavier."

The state police leader said he had several other leads, but added that he was getting no cooperation from local authorities.

In Atlanta, Gov. Ellis Arnall announced he was offering rewards totaling more than $10,000 for a solution of the mob killing of two Negro farmhands and their wives.

Grimly, he said, "I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton County until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers."

Arnall then discussed the case off the record.

At Cheyenne, Wyo., where he is vacationing, Talmadge said last night that he had barely had time to read accounts of the shooting. "I think," he said, "such incidents are to be regretted." Beyond that he had no further comment.

Meanwhile, preparations for the burial of Roger Malcolm, his wife; George Dorsey and his wife, victims of the lynching, were attracting scores of visitors to the funeral parlor in which their bodies lie.

* * *

SHORTLY AFTER THE SHOOTING was made public Friday, agents of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation swarmed into the county. In the course of routine work, bullets were taken from the bodies for checking by ballistic experts.

Meanwhile, there were expressions of public concern over, the lynching.

Grand Dragon Samuel Green, of the Ku Klux Klan, said his organization "had nothing to do" with the mob action, but that he expected Arnall "will try to pin it on us."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People through Secretary Walter White in New York, charged in a telegram to Atty. Gen. Tom Clark that reports of actions of officials in Walton County indicated they had knowledge lynchings were to take place.

To this charge, Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton County replied: "You tell 'em its a damn lie. I don't care who said it."

* * *

IN BIRMINGHAM, Ala., the Southern Negro Youth Congress wrote U. S. Atty. Gen. Tom Clark asking that martial law be declared and a house to house search conducted for the slayers.

Maj. William E. Spence of the GBI, (which is patterned after the FBI) after a day and night of intense work suggested that the bloody murders were a "rehearsed affair."

Only witness to the multiple slaying was Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer in whose car the Negroes were riding.

Harrison said he was taking the Negroes to his farm to work after obtaining Malcolm's release on bond.

The Walton County farmer said a band of 20 armed and unmasked men waylaid the group as his car approached a bridge. The Negro men, Harrison related, were taken from the car first and their arms bound.

* * *

WHEN ONE OF THE WOMEN suddenly remarked that she knew one of the men, the mob returned and ordered them to accompany their husbands.

Harrison said the four were marched to a clump of bushes and lined up. Then the leader of the mob who "looked like a retired business man" counted to three, Harrison said, and the first of several volleys rang out.

Harrison said he made his way to a store and telephoned news of the massacre to Sheriff Gordon. The latter has declared that since Harrison is unable to identify any of the mob, he can do nothing.

TALMADGE ISSUES STATEMENT ON RETURN FROM VACATION

Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

During my three terms as Governor of Georgia there was not a lynching in the State. I am very sorry that a lynching did occur under the present Governor's administration and I sympathize with him and know that it did cause him chagrin and embarrassment.

Tue. 7-30-46

34a

While I am Governor, I know that such atrocities will be at a minimum. It is very regrettable that mob violence occurs in any section of the country.

There was a great deal of mob violence in Detroit, Chicago and other sections of the country during the past few years. The people of Georgia always sympathize with other sections of the United States when such occurrences happened and the better thinking people of Georgia knew that it was not a reflection on the State, or the people of the State, but only on the individuals who committed the crime.

(Signed) EUGENE TALMADGE.

Atlanta, July 29.

7413

full

Federal Inquiry In Georgia Negro Massacre Imminent

Re Montgomery Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

MONROE, GA., July 26.—(AP)—The bloody massacre of two young Negro farm hands and their wives by an armed and unmasked band of white men brought the promise of a Federal investigation today. Sat. 7-27-46

The ghastly details of the multiple lynching were told by Loy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was taking the Negroes to his farm and who was held at gun point by the mob.

34a

Harrison had come to Monroe from his farm to get Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. He was accompanied by the three other Negroes, Malcolm's wife and George Dorsey and his wife.

Geo.

The white man and the four Negroes were en route back home in a car when they were waylaid by the mob. Their questioning indicated they were seeking Malcolm. There was no indication why they also took Dorsey out for execution. The women were killed because one of them recognized a member of the mob.

Harrison said the band, led by a "tall, dignified looking white man" lined the Negroes up four abreast, and then to the count of "one, two three," by the leader, three volleys were fired into the quartet.

"I didn't have anything but a pocket knife," Harrison related. "What could I do?"

Harrison said "most of the men were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me. The leader looked like a retired business man. He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big broad brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good Florida suntan."

It was the first lynching of more than one person in Georgia since 1918. Ten Negroes were lynched in Brooks County then. There have been nine instances of multiple lynchings in the State since 1892. Sat. 7-27-46

The coroner said that at least 60 bullets were pumped into the bodies of the Negro farm hands and their wives. The grotesquely sprawled bodies were found in a clump of bushes beside a little used sideroad. Advertiser

The hands of the two men were bound behind them. The hands of the women were free. The upper part of the bodies were scarcely recognizable from the mass of bullet holes. Sat. 7-27-46

The women were sisters.

The stark rural tragedy occurred about eight miles from here late yesterday, but the story did not "leak out" until today. Monroe is 40 miles northeast of metropolitan Atlanta. Advertiser

34a

A few hours later Atty. Gen. Tom Clark's office in Washington announced that a "complete investigation" had been ordered into the multiple lynching.

Georgians Trap, Shoot Negroes In Lynching Act

The Birmingham News

Birmingham, Ala.

Fri. 7-26-46

No Members Of Band Identified; Four Left Dead At Roadside

News

WASHINGTON, July 26—(AP)—Attorney General Tom Clark's office announced today that he has ordered a "complete investigation" into the slayings of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., yesterday. Fri. 7.26.46

34a

The announcement said that the inquiry would be carried out by the civil rights section of the Department of Justice.

Birmingham, Ala.

MONROE, Ga., July 26—(AP)—A band of armed white men waylaid a white farmer and four Negroes on a secluded Northeast Georgia road late yesterday, Sheriff E. S. Gordon said today, and while holding the white man at gun point shot the Negroes to death.

One of the Negroes, Roger Malcolm, 27, the sheriff said had just been released from jail under $600 bond on charges of stabbing his employer, Barney Hester, a farmer.

The sheriff identified the other Negroes as Malcolm's wife, and George Dorsey and his wife.

The Negroes, riding in an automobile with Loy Harrison, a farmer, were en route from Monroe to Harrison's farm in adjoining Oconee County when they were waylaid at a bridge of the Apalachee River, the sheriff said.

Harrison, at a coroner's inquest last night, the sheriff said, testified that he could not identify any member of the band which waylaid him. The jury returned a verdict of death at the hands of unidentified parties.

The slayings, the sheriff said, occurred about eight miles east of Monroe, the county seat of Walton County, which is about 40 miles northeast of Atlanta.

Here is the story of the slayings as told by the sheriff after questioning Harrison:

Dorsey and his wife worked on Harrison's farm in Oconee County. Malcolm had worked for Hester, and Harrison, after Malcolm's release from jail had gone to Monroe to get him and his wife and take them back to jobs on the Harrison farm. Fri. 7-26-46

Harrison, driving the car with the Negroes in it, approached a wooden bridge over the river which divides Oconee and Walton Counties. A band of 20 to 25 men, armed with shotguns, pistols and rifles, stood in the road and ordered him to halt.

Harrison stopped the car at the entrance to the bridge, and the armed men ordered the two Negro men from the car and proceeded down a side road. Harrison and the two women were held at the automobile. Fri. 7-26-46

Then Harrison heard one of the men in the armed band remark that one of the Negro women had recognized him, and several of the men took the women from the car. Harrison then heard shots. After the shots, the mob dispersed, and Harrison went back two miles toward Monroe and called Sheriff Gordon from a country store.

34a

Geo.

* * *

THE SHERIFF SAID he went to the scene immediately and found the bodies in the bushes along the side road about 40 feet from where Harrison's car had been parked at the entrance to the bridge.

The sheriff quoted Harrison as saying none of the men wore a mask. 7-26-46. Fri.

The nearest house to the scene of the slayings was about a half mile away, the sheriff said.

Sheriff Gordon said that without identification of any member of the armed band, he had gone as far as he could with his investigation. He said he had called in the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, a division of the state police, and that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had called him.

Tuskegee Reports Mob Killings First Of Year

The Birmingham News

Birmingham, Ala.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 26—(AP)—A Tuskegee Institute official said today the killing of four Negroes by a band of white men in Georgia was the first incident of its kind reported in the United States this year. Fri. 7-26-46

A. L. Holsey, public relations director at the institute, said the last one occurred in Madison, Fla., in August, 1945, when a Negro was taken out of jail and shot to death.

34a

The last "multiple lynching" listed on Tuskegee's records, Holsey said, was one in Quitman, Miss., in October, 1942, when two 14-year-old Negro boys charged with attempted rape were seized by a mob and hanged from a river bridge. News

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CRIME AGAINST AMERICA

Advertiser

Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia acted properly when he offered rewards up to $10,000 for the band of desperadoes who shot down four Negroes in cold blood Thursday near Monroe, only a few miles from Atlanta.

Montgomery, Ala.

7-29-46—Monday

34a

Georgia's State Patrol is reported investigating the mass murder, but making slow progress against the people's silence, born of fear of revenge by the guilty men.

Is it possible that the people of Georgia will let such shame go unpunished?

Is this the justice we proclaim when we demand of the rest of the nation that we be allowed to settle our own problems?

The Advertiser believes in the principle of home-rule, but also in the principle of home responsibility. In the tightly-knit world of today, the city, or state, or nation that would claim freedom must demonstrate its ability to administer that freedom. Failure to show responsibility is an invitation to outside interference.

Advertiser

Governor Arnall is in an unhappy position today, standing as he does in the shadow of the hate-inspired man who will succeed him. Arnall must try to defend the honor of his state, and of the South, against the wave of brutality following in the wake of Talmadge's foul campaign.

Montgomery, Ala.

7-29-46-Mon.

Perhaps there are some so naive as to believe that the unpunished murder of four Negroes in Georgia is purely "our own affair." In fact it is a "world affair." Today the teeming peoples of India and China and Arabia are reading the story and asking themselves, "What is this American democracy? Shall we place our faith in it, join hands with America—or shall we look elsewhere for a political faith?"

The world spotlight is upon this Georgia crime against America. May God help the people of Georgia to prove that this act is not of their hearts.

'Gene' Extends Ellis Sympathy Over Lynching

Montgomery Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Talmadge Tells Georgia Such Won't Happen In His Administration

Tue. 7-30-46

MONROE, GA., July 29.—(AP)—Eugene Talmadge who'll take over as Georgia's governor in January, said today the mass-slaying of four Negroes here last week was "regrettable" and that during his administration "such atrocities will be at a minimum."

Talmadge, back in the State after a Western vacation following his selection as the Democratic nominee for governor in the July 17 primary, in a formal statement said he was very sorry that the lynchings occurred in Gov. Ellis Arnall's administration.

"I sympathize with him and know that it did cause him chagrin and embrassment," Talmadge said of Arnall, who defeated him four years ago and backed another candidates against him in this year's primary. Democratic nomination in Georgia is equivalent to election. 7-30-46 Tue.

Arnall has offered a $10,000 reward on behalf of the state for apprehension of the group of white men, who ruthlessly shot to death Roger Malcom and his wife and George Dorsey and his wife as an apparent sequel to Malcom's being arrested July 14 on a charge of stabbing his white employer.

In Washington, White House Press Secretary Charles G. Ross told a news conference President Truman has taken no direct hand in the lynching investigation.

A group of Negroes protesting the slayings were received by David K. Niles, presidential administrative assistant, after they paraded to focus attention on the incident. They were headed by Prof. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress.

A short time before, Edgar G. Brown, who said he headed the National Negro Council, walked out of the White House and said he had refused to see Niles "or any other underling." Brown explained that he wanted the President to dispatch troops into Georgia. Tue. 7-30-46

Subsequently Charles G. Ross, presidential press secretary, said he had no knowledge of any request from Brown for an appointment. Ala.

There were no announced developments in the search for the slayers being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Major William E. Spence, head of the GBI, said a solution would take long and careful police work and commented:

"The mystery is being unraveled."

FBI Pushing Strong Probe In Massacre

Montgomery Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Mississippi Men Held In Death Of Negro

Wed. 7-31-46

WASHINGTON, July 30.—(AP)—Attorney General Clark announced today that President Truman has expressed "horror" at the lynchings of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., and directed the Justice Department to investigate "with all its resources."

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The federal inquiry—which Clark said is being carried on "in the tradition of the FBI"—has two aims:

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Aims Listed

1. To see whether the mob members can be arrested and prosecuted under any federal statute.

2. To assist Georgia authorities in identifying the members of the mob and prosecuting them under State laws. Clark announced that "the entire record of our investigation will be made available to the governor of Georgia, if necessary, for proper action of Georgia civil authorities."

Clark expressed "hope for an early solution" of what he called "these shocking murders" and called upon "all our citizens to repudiate mob rule."

Referring to the 20-odd white men who shot the two Negro farm workers, one a veteran, and their wives, last Thursday, Clark said in a statement:

"This crime is an affront to decent Americanism. Only due process of law sustains our claim to orderly self-government. I call upon all our citizens to repudiate mob rule and to assist the authorities to bring these criminals to justice. The lives and liberties of none of us are safe when forces of terror operate outside the laws of God and man."

Later Clark said in a second statement that he had talked with Mr. Truman about the case and that the President "has expressed to me his horror at the crime and his sympathy for the families of the victims." Wed. 7-31-46

Hundreds of Telegrams

In his first statement, Clark said the Justice Department has received "hundreds of telegrams and letters from public-spirited citizens and civic, religious, labor and veterans organizations from all sections of the nation deploring and protesting the recent mass murder in Monroe, Ga., he added:

"The Federal Bureau of Investigation has a sufficient force of agents on hand to provide a thorough probe and the civil rights section of the Department of Justice is examining the legal and jurisdictional aspects of the case.

"The probe is being carried on in the tradition of the FBI—with dispatch, efficiency and determination. The full facilities of the Department of Justice are behind this investigation."

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At Atlanta two large groups of ministers protested the lynchings.

Meanwhile, a group of 50 women paraded before the White House protesting the slayings. They paraded under the auspices of the National Association of Colored Women and carried signs such as "America, our home, let it be known lynching must cease." Wed. 7-31-46

At Monroe, Maj. William E. Spence, head of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, said a solution would require long and careful police work.

RALPH T. JONES

'Nor All Your Tears Wash Out a Word of It'

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

Last week was, as we all know, a tragic week for Walton County.

Twelve miles from Monroe, the county seat, the worst mob crime in years, in Georgia, was committed. By this time all the world knows of it. By this time the names of Monroe, of Walton County and of Georgia are associated by all people with that foul deed for which an unidentified group of cowards, a score or so, are responsible.

The four Negroes who were so wantonly slaughtered died quickly. Their troubles and sufferings as well as their happiness in earthly life are over.

34a

Let us today express sympathy for all the good people of Monroe and of Walton County. The dark cloud of shame which 20 vicious men brought upon them will shadow all good among them for years to come. A blot of blackest ignominy has been smeared across the good name of their town and county, a blot which will remain as long as memory recalls the awful deed.

Nice Little Town Monroe is a nice little Georgia town. Typical of scores of county seats. Courthouse the focal point, the center of the community. Attractive stores on the square around the old brick building.

The 1930 census gives the population of Monroe as 3,706. It has, presumably, increased since then. It is a peaceful, quiet, attractive place.

Wednesday 7-31-46

You pass through Monroe en route to Athens from Atlanta by the best and most direct route. Thousands of Atlantans have admired its pleasant homes as they have driven through to and from Athens for the football games in the Fall or for other reasons.

We have stopped many times in Monroe for a cup of coffee, a soft drink, ice cream or other refreshment when driving. It has been pleasant to park in the shade of the old trees around the Courthouse, to enter the busy, pleasant drug store and order drinks from the fountain. We have drunk coffee in the little restaurant late at night, tired as we neared the end of a long trip.

Now, though, I don't think we'll be pausing there so often. Not for drinks nor for gasoline, if we have a gallon or three in the tank to carry us to the next service station.

For there will be, as we drive through Walton County, always the memory of the horror of last week. That memory will be an evil, a depressing thing and we'll want to get beyond the county line as quickly as we can.

We'll Not Know Unless all members of that foul gang, the murder mob, are revealed, arrested and punished for their crime, we will never know, when we see an ordinary-appearing citizen, whether or not he was one of them.

We know, of course, that almost all the people of Monroe are good citizens, pleasant people, typically honest and decent Georgians. We know the same about the people of Walton County. There are, though, those 20 who have befouled the entire community.

7-31-46 Wed

No, it would not be pleasant to stop and talk with a man at a Walton County filling station or eating place, and wonder if he was one of the 20. It would not be good, on a Summer day, to see a farmer at work in his fields and wonder if his finger pulled the trigger on one of those criminal guns.

We'd know that the chance of any individual's guilt was but a small fraction of one percent. For there were only 20 guilty ones. But the thought would not be pleasant that the man you saw, the man you spoke with, could be one of those 20.

For the County's Sake Money rewards totaling $12,000 or more have been offered for the identification, arrest and conviction of the guilty men. It seems, though, there would be a far more impelling reason than financial reward for the good people of Walton to discover those who have befouled the name of their county.

For the sake of the county itself, for its good name, it would seem every good citizen there would not rest until the crime is paid in full before the proper bar of justice.

Such reckoning is the only way in which the blot on the escutcheon of all the county can be even partially eradicated.

Complete vindication can never come. The deed has been done and the record can never be fully cleansed.

The Moving Finger writes; and having writ,
Moves on; nor all your Piety nor Wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line,
Nor all your Tears wash out a Word of it.
—Omar Khayyam.

Press Lynch Quiz, Truman Tells FBI

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

By GLADSTONE WILLIAMS,
Constitution Staff Writer.

WASHINGTON, July 30—Atty. Gen. Clark revealed here Tuesday that President Truman has directed that the full weight of the Department of Justice be thrown into the investigation of the mob slaying of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., last Thursday.

34a

The Attorney General's revelation of determined Federal intervention was made in a formal statement issued by the Department of Justice during the afternoon. It followed an earlier conference between the Department head and the President.

"I have talked with the President regarding this case," Atty. Gen. Clark said, "and he has expressed to me his horror at the crime. Wed. 7-31-46

ALL RESOURCES

"He has asked that the Department report its progress in the investigation and proceed with all its resources to investigate this and any other crimes of oppression to ascertain if any Federal statute can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals."

Declaring "the full facilities of the Department of Justice are behind this investigation," Clark said the Federal Bureau of Investigation "has a sufficient force of agents on hand (presumably in Georgia) to provide a thorough probe."

He added also that the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice is being carried on "in the tradition of the FBI—with dispatch, efficiency and determination." 7-31-46

"EARLY SOLUTION"

Significantly, the Attorney General said "an early solution on the shocking murders" was hoped for.

The FBI inquiry into the Monroe slayings began last Friday, or as soon as the news of the crime reached Washington, the Department statement disclosed. It was ordered originally at the direction of the Attorney General.

Tuesday's announcement by the Attorney General came as a climax to a furore that has been raised in Washington since the Georgia mob slayings took place. The crime was the subject of an outbreak in Congress last week, when members of the House and Senate took the floor to demand that the Federal Government intervene in apprehending the criminals. 7-31-46

DEMANDS INTENSIFIED

Such demands have been intensified following a statement by the head of the Georgia State Bureau of Investigation that he was finding it difficult to develop the identity of members of the mob, due to the reluctance of persons in the area to discuss the case.

The White House also has been besieged with demands for action from the Civil Liberties League and similar organizations. Negro organizations staged a parade of protest to the White House Monday while Tuesday other delegations from the National Negro Congress invaded the Capitol Building and sought to impress their protests upon members of Congress.

Wed.

The line of action to be undertaken by the Department of Justice was indicated in Attorney General Clark's statement, he said the full record of the FBI's investigation will be made available to the Governor of Georgia "for proper action of Georgia civil authorities." Constitution

This was taken to mean the FBI will undertake to apprehend the criminals and then turn the evidence over to State authorities for prosecution.

Disclosing the Department of Justice has received "hundreds of telegrams and letters from public spirited citizens and civic, religious, labor and veterans organizations from all sections of the country, deploring and protesting the mass murder," the formal statement of the attorney general follows in full:

34a

"These communications are too numerous to be answered at once by my office. I am, therefore, making public, through the press, the progress of the immediate and complete Federal investigation which began, at my direction, last Friday, as soon as the news of the crime reached Washington.

"The Federal Bureau of Investigation has a sufficient force of agents on hand to provide a thorough probe and the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice is examining the legal and jurisdictional aspects of the case. The probe is being carried on in the tradition of the FBI with dispatch, efficiency, and determination. The full facilities of the Department of Justice are behind this investigation. Atlanta, Ga.

"We hope for an early solution of these shocking murders. The entire record of our investigation will be made available to the Governor of Georgia, if necessary, for proper action of Georgia civil authorities. 7-31-46 Wed.

"This crime is an affront to decent Americanism. Only due process of law sustains our claim to orderly self-government. I call upon all our citizens to repudiate mob rule and to assist the authorities to bring these criminals to justice. The lives and liberties of none of us are safe when forces of terror operate outside the laws of God and man. Atlanta, Ga.

"I have talked with the President regarding this case and he has expressed to me his horror at the crime. He has asked that the Department report its progress in the investigation and proceed with all its resources to investigate this and any other crimes of oppression to ascertain if any Federal statute can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals." Constitution

James B. Carey, Secretary-Treasurer of the CIO, said in a wire to Mr. Truman that the Georgia lynchings places the nation "on trial." 7-31-46 Wed

Noting that Georgia officials admit their inability to find the "disgraceful mob responsible for the brutal massacre," Carey wrote:

"The full powers of your Administration must be used to prevent a continued domination of an intolerant, irresponsible Government, false to its duty as an elected Government, operating on the theory that nothing can be done when a mob of citizens sets aside the orderly process of justice

to mete out its [illegible] punishment and to force [illegible] unwilling public its code of social behavior."

7414

HOW 4 NEGROES DIED

They Counted to 3, Then Boom--Harrison

Atlanta Constitution

Atlanta, Ga. Sat. 7-27-46

By BENNETT DELOACH

MONROE, July 26—(AP)—Loy Harrison, a prosperous Georgia farmer who was held off at gun point while a band of men shot and killed four Negroes near here, related an on-the-spot account of the massacre Friday.

34a

Harrison left his pretty stone house on his big farm and accompanied newsmen and officers to the scene on the banks of the Appalachee River, where he gave this account:

"I was on my way back home I'd made bond for one of the Negroes — Roger Malcolm. We came to the bridge across the river and I looked across and saw a car blocking the other end of the bridge. Sat. 7-27-46

"I thought to myself, 'Federal men.'

"Then from both sides of the car men commenced coming out. A car came up behind me and his bumper touched mine. One of the men came out, put a shotgun against the back of my head and said, 'All of you put 'em up.'

"One man said, 'There's the man we want'—pointing to Roger.

"Some of the men in the group then went to the two Negro men and slipped ropes around their hands—expert-like, pretty-like.

"They then pulled the two Negro men from the car and started leading 'em off.

"Then one of the Negro women commenced cussing like everything and called out one of the men's names whom she evidently recognized. When she did that, the leader of the group who was leading the two men away said, 'Hold everything,' selected four men and said, 'Go back and get them ——.' Constitution

"They then told me to get out by my car. They pulled the women out of the car and I stood beside it while a little short man stood at the end of the bridge and looked down the barrel of his shotgun at me all the time.

"One of the men asked: 'You recognize anybody here?' I replied 'No.' Sat. 7-27-46

"I'd turn my head sideways and I could see the men line 'em up. I could see the Negroes four abreast. I could see the back of the men's heads. I heard the leader of the group say, 'One, two, three,' and then boom. He did that three times. There were three volleys.

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"They told me then to get back in the car. I did, and they told me I could turn my car around and go when I wanted to. I did turn around and I looked up in the car mirror and saw 'em going two by two across the bridge.

"I then went to the phone and called the Sheriff. The whole thing must have lasted about three minutes, although it seemed much longer than that. I was excited, naturally, but I wasn't too scared. Sat. 7-27-46

"The leader was tall and dignified looking. He looked like a retired businessman. He was about 65; he wore a brown suit, and had on a big broad-brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good healthy Florida tan. He was not armed.

"There were about 20 men in the group. Many of them were dressed in khaki clothes just like me. Constitution

"The men were armed with pistols and shotguns. I do not know what caliber the weapons were.

"I didn't have anything but a pocket knife. Atlanta, Ga.

"What could I do?"

Ellis Arnall Offers Reward For Killers

Montgomery Advertiser, Montgomery, Ala.

Georgia Probers Continue Hunt For Lynchers

Sun. 7-28-46

MONROE, GA., July 27.—(U.P.)—Gov. Ellis Arnall today offered rewards up to $10,000 for the "mob of desperadoes" which lynched four Negroes near here Thursday, and a state official seeking the killers said he was "up against a stone wall because the people are afraid to talk."

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Maj. W. E. Spence, head of the Georgia State Patrol, said after a 24-hour investigation that he would "wire every Georgia Congressman, or ask Governor Arnall to wire them," asking their support of Federal anti-lynch legislation. Advertiser

He will make the request, he said, "because under the conditions now existing in Georgia we cannot cope with mob violence."

Spence, annoyed at lack of progress in rounding up the lynchers, revealed that one suspect, a roadhouse employe, Lester Little, had been picked up for questioning but later released when the lone witness of the massacre, J. Loy Williams, could not identify him as one of the slayers. Sun. 7-28-46

Georgians' Silence Hampers Lynching Inquiry, Police Say

The Birmingham News-Age-Herald

Birmingham, Ala.

MONROE, Ga., July 27 —(AP)— The head of the Georgia State Police told newsmen Saturday that he had been hampered in his investigation of the massacre of four Negroes near here Thursday because "the best people in town won't talk about this." Sun. 7-28-46

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"They have an idea who it is," the police head, Maj. William E. Spence said. "We've been out on things like this before, but never anything like this." News

"When I get back to town (Atlanta) I'm going to ask the governor to appeal to every congressman to help pass federal legislation against mob violence."

Maj. Spence met newsmen shortly after the release of a man who he said fitted the description of the leader of the armed band which waylaid J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer, and the Negroes on the banks of the Appalachee River.

Spence said Harrison failed to identify the man and said the leader of the mob was "20 pounds heavier."

The state police leader said he had several other leads, but added that he was getting no cooperation from local authorities.

In Atlanta, Gov. Ellis Arnall announced he was offering rewards totaling more than $10,000 for a solution of the mob killing of two Negro farmhands and their wives.

Grimly, he said, "I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton County until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers." Sun. 7-28-46

Arnall then discussed the case off the record.

At Cheyenne, Wyo., where he is vacationing, Talmadge said last night that he had barely had time to read accounts of the shooting. "I think," he said, "such incidents are to be regretted." Beyond that he had no further comment.

Meanwhile, preparations for the burial of Roger Malcolm, his wife; George Dorsey and his wife, victims of the lynching, were attracting scores of visitors to the funeral parlor in which their bodies lie.

* * *

SHORTLY AFTER THE SHOOTING was made public Friday, agents of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation swarmed into the county. In the course of routine work, bullets were taken from the bodies for checking by ballistic experts.

Meanwhile, there were expressions of public concern over the lynching.

Grand Dragon Samuel Green, of the Ku Klux Klan, said his organization "had nothing to do" with the mob action, but that he expected Arnall "will try to pin it on us."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through Secretary Walter White in New York, charged in a telegram to Atty. Gen. Tom Clark that reports of actions of officials in Walton County indicated they had knowledge lynchings were to take place. Birmingham, Ala.

To this charge, Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton County replied: "You tell 'em its a damn lie. I don't care who said it."

* * *

IN BIRMINGHAM, Ala., the Southern Negro Youth Congress wrote U. S. Atty. Gen. Tom Clark asking that martial law be declared and a house to house search conducted for the slayers.

Maj. William E. Spence of the GBI, (which is patterned after the FBI) after a day and night of intense work suggested that the bloody murders were a "rehearsed affair." News

Only witness to the multiple slaying was Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer in whose car the Negroes were riding.

Harrison said he was taking the Negroes to his farm to work after obtaining Malcolm's release on bond.

The Walton County farmer said a band of 20 armed and unmasked men waylaid the group as his car approached a bridge. The Negro men, Harrison related, were taken from the car first and their arms bound. Sun. 7-28-46

* * *

WHEN ONE OF THE WOMEN suddenly remarked that she knew one of the men, the mob returned and ordered them to accompany their husbands.

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Harrison said the four were marched to a clump of bushes and lined up. Then the leader of the mob who "looked like a retired business man" counted to three, Harrison said, and the first of several volleys rang out.

Harrison said he made his way to a store and telephoned news of the massacre to Sheriff Gordon. The latter has declared that since Harrison is unable to identify any of the mob, he can do nothing.

Senator Calls Lynchings Blot On Whole U. S.

WASHINGTON, July 27 — (AP) — Sen. Knowland (R., Calif.) told the Senate Saturday that the lynching of four Negroes by a Georgia mob "is a blot on the whole United States." News

The senator urged that the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation exert their "full force" in cooperation with Georgia state officers in an attempt to track down members of the mob.

Several Southern senators, including Russell (D., Ga.), expressed displeasure when Knowland inserted in the Congressional Record a clipping from The New York Herald Trbune concerning the lynching.

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"Crimes of this nature are not confined to the state of Georgia," Russell declared. "I doubt not that if I were to peruse the newspapers of California I would find that there have been brutal crimes committed by people of that state." News 7-28-46

Reward Of $10,000 Offered In Georgia Massacre Of Negroes

The Birmingham News

Birmingham, Ala.

Investigation, Martial Law Asked In Mob's Bloody Slaying Of Four

Sat. 7-27-46

ATLANTA, July 27—(AP)—Gov. Ellis Arnall today offered rewards totaling more than $10,000 for solution of the out-of-hand mob slaying in Walton County of two Negro farm hands and their wives.

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The usually cheerful state executive grimly told newsmen at a special press conference that he was ordering the state police to remain in the county "until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers."

The governor said "the decent people of Georgia are humiliated about the mass murder of four Negroes in Walton County by an unknown mob of some 20 desperadoes.

* * *

"AS GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA I am offering a reward to the full limit of the law. Five hundred dollars will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of each participant in the massacre. These rewards will total more than $10,000. The lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice."

The governor added "this mass murder is one of the worst incidents ever to take place in our state. The killing of innocent people is disgraceful morally and legally.

"I am urging the local law enforcement officials of Walton County and all state agents to leave nothing undone in ferreting out the guilty parties. Civilized people everywhere will watch developments in connection with this heinous crime."

Arnall's statement followed a suggestion from the head of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation that the shootings near Monroe, 40 miles from Atlanta, was a "rehearsed affair."

Maj. William E. Spence, of the GBI, said: Sat. 7-27-46

"It looks like it was a rehearsed affair. It looks like it might have been planned since the Negro was first confined to jail."

He referred to Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. Malcolm, his wife, and George Dorsey and his wife were the mob's victims.

Although an announcement from Washington said the Federal Bureau of Investigation would investigate the case for the civil rights section of the Justice Department, an assistant district attorney said:

"So far it seems to be a state case."

THE ATTORNEY, Jack Gautier, of Macon, said he came here to try to determine if there had been any violation of civil rights covered by federal statute. Sat. 7-27-46

The only comment on the lynching to come from Eugene Talmadge, recently nominated for a fourth term as Georgia's governor on a "white supremacy" platform, was that "such incidents are to be regretted." News

Talmadge is vacationing in Cheyenne, Wyo.

Rep. Marcantonio (A. L., N. Y.) asked President Truman for "prompt" federal intervention.

In a telegram to Truman, Marcantonio said, "Unless immediate government action is taken, there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbo and Talmadges." Birmingham

THE DETAILS OF THE GHASTLY LYNCHING was related by Loy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was held at gun point by the mob. He was taking the four Negroes to his farm to work after getting Malcolm out on bond. Ala.

Harrison said the band of 20 armed and unmasked men which waylaid them was led by a "tall dignified white man" who counted "one, two, three" as three volleys were fired into the Negroes, lined up abreast.

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"The leader looked like a retired business man," he said. "He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big broad-brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good Florida suntan."

The mob, he said, first took the Negro men out of the car and bound their arms behind them. Then, when one of the women recognized a member of the mob, several men came and took them too, he said. Birmingham

"I DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING but a pocket knife," Harrison said. "What could I do?" Ala.

He made his way to a store about two miles away and called the sheriff. Then the bullet-riddled bodies were found in a clump of bushes beside the sideroad.

full

The Negro women were sisters. Dorsey's mother said he had just been discharged from the Army, and saw overseas duty in North Africa and Australia.

The lynching was the first in the South in a year. In recent years lynchings have steadily declined almost to the vanishing point. There was only one in 1945, and two the year before. Sat. 7-27-46

It was the first lynching in Georgia of more than one person since 1918. In that year 10 Negroes were lynched at one time in Brooks County.

The lynching of the two Negro men and their wives occurred late Thursday, but news of it did not "leak out" until yesterday.

Monroe is about 40 miles east of Atlanta. The lynching occurred at a lonely spot about eight miles beyond Monroe.

Talmadge Wasn't There, But His Spirit Was

The Courier-Journal
Louisville Ky. Edit

UNDER the law, EUGENE TALMADGE was not responsible for the lynching of four Negroes in Northeast Georgia Thursday. He wasn't anywhere within miles of the place where it happened. Probably he never even heard of any of the lynchers, and didn't know the victims existed within the State of which he has just been named Governor.

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Yet these four lynchings were a result of his election, and therefore a result of him.

It is one of those sordid stories of personal tragedy which begin in forces far removed from the place and people in them. EUGENE TALMADGE wanted to be Governor again. The United States Supreme Court held that *Jim Crow* laws cannot apply on interstate buses and trains. The Circuit Court of Appeals held that Negroes can vote in Southern Democratic "white" primaries—since in the one-party South these are the only elections, and a citizen is entitled to his vote. Sat. 7-27-46

That gave TALMADGE all he needed for an issue, the tattered old banner of "white supremacy."

"I know the white men of Columbia County know how to reason with the niggers so they won't want to vote," he cried on Independence Day. The Ku Klux Klan knew how to treat the black man, he declared. Courier-Journal

And he stirred prejudices that had been still and near forgotten. He made poor white laborers fear that Negroes would take their jobs. He made the neurotic fear black rapists everywhere. And by implying it, he made many feel that violence was not only justified, but perfectly respectable and in fact a crusade to "keep Georgia a white man's State." Louisville, Ky.

He was elected, and a week later a Negro farm laborer named ROGER MALCOLM had a quarrel with his wife. His boss remonstrated, and the Negro stabbed his boss. The Sheriff locked MALCOLM up in the county jail. A white farmer, LOY HARRISON, took MALCOLM's wife, GEORGE BUTLER, a Negro friend, and BUTLER's wife, and went to jail to bail out MALCOLM. 7-27-46-Sat.

They put up $600 and started home—the farmer, MALCOLM and his wife, and BUTLER and his wife. On the way 20 or 30 white men stopped them. HARRISON said somebody held a gun on him and shot the two Negro men. One of the wives recognized one of the lynchers and called his name. So they shot her, and the other woman too, and then, presumably, went home to supper. Sat. 7-27-46

HARRISON told the sheriff about it, and there, it seems, this particular story ends. For in a county where such a thing can happen, the people who do the lynching are not afraid. They are not afraid because they know that if they were convicted, TALMADGE would pardon them. They know, moreover, a jury won't convict them, even if they go to trial. And they know the chances are, they won't "be recognized" and won't be tried. Didn't they shoot a woman because she recognized them?

This is nothing new. It is repetition of an old, old pattern. A federal anti-lynching bill might stop it now. Time and tolerance and education, which are slow workers, will stop it some day. But they will not bring back these four lives, and they will not redeem the murderers in Georgia.

Are We Capable of Downing Mob Rule?

Atlanta Constitution

All right-thinking Georgians are united today in a heartfelt sense of shame and embarrassment over the outrage visited upon four helpless Walton County Negroes—three of whom were not implicated in any manner in the crime for which their murderers apparently were seeking revenge. Sat. 7-27-46

34a

Mob law at any time is repugnant to the minds of civilized men living in a democratic community where courts are functioning effectively to bring wrongdoers to justice. But this instance, where three totally innocent persons—two of them women—were shot down in cold blood merely because they were related to the intended victim is inexcusably wanton even in the eyes of the criminal creed. Atlanta, Ga.

The Constitution has consistently urged against congressional enactment of legislation which would make such instances of mob violence a matter for Federal authorities. We have contended, in so doing, that the Sheriff, Grand Jury and other local agencies are fully capable and willing to cope with such outbreaks. We shall be watching, as will people in every State in the Union, to see if our faith in the ability of Georgians to protect the rights of their fellow citizens without Federal interference is justified. Sat. 7-27.

Tragedy In Georgia

The Birmingham News

Only a few days after the end of a gubernatorial campaign in Georgia in which the racial issue was alarmingly raised, four Negroes—two men and two women—were murdered by a band of armed white men.

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The details available at this writing evoke horror and revulsion in the minds and hearts of intelligent, decent men and women everywhere. Birmingham, Ala.

A Negro, so the story goes, was reprimanded by a farmer employer. The Negro stabbed the farmer. He was released on bond. Another farmer was taking this Negro and his wife and another Negro and his wife in an automobile to work on his farm. They were stopped at a bridge by a band of about 20 to 25 men, armed with pistols, shotguns and rifles. Sat. 7-27-46

The two Negroes were led off down a side road. The farmer and the two women were held at the bridge. The farmer relates that he heard one of the mob members say that he had been recognized by one of the women. The women, too, were then taken off. The farmer heard shots. The mob dispersed. The farmer notified the sheriff. The sheriff found the bodies in bushes along the side road not far from where the car had been stopped.

The farmer, according to the sheriff, testified at a coroner's inquest that he could not identify any member of the band. The sheriff quoted the farmer as saying none of the men wore a mask.

* * *

This barbaric outrage is the first case of lynch law this year, according to the records of Tuskegee Institute. It is a frightfully revolting case, involving the murder not only of the Negro under charge of stabbing his employer, but also of his wife and another man and his wife. It would appear that the latter three were entirely innocent so far as the stabbing is concerned. News

The insane irresponsibility and injustice of such action is horribly emphasized by the clear indication that the mob originally did not intend to harm the women. But, if the story told by the farmer, according to the sheriff, is true, two more lives meant little or nothing to the lynchers when it appeared that the safety of one or more of them might be at stake. Birmingham,

* * *

Justice must be relentlessly and courageously sought in this unspeakable crime. No palliation is provided by the stabbing. The due processes of law are charged with taking care of such cases. Usurpation of the functions of the law by a mob is a menace to the foundations of American freedom and justice. Ala.

The attorney general of the United States has announced "a complete investigation" by the civil rights section of the Department of Justice. We hope the state of Georgia will be prompt to do its clear duty. It is scarcely conceivable that no way could be found to identify the members of the mob.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

It would be far better for justice to be done by the state of Georgia than for it to be dependent on any kind of federal action.

Failure on Georgia's part would be sure to result in intensification of the demand for a federal anti-lynching law, despite the fine progress that has been made in recent years in reducing such crimes! Now the South and the nation are startled by one of the most terrible episodes of the kind in American history into renewed realization that the battle against lynching is not entirely won. Sat. 7-27-46

It solemnly underscores for all Americans the grave obligation to deal with all racial problems with the highest intelligence, discipline and justice of which we are capable.

Destroy the Murderers

Editor Constitution: For many years the writer has traveled throughout the Southern States and has learned to warmly admire, respect and appreciate the people of the South as well as their customs and their ideals.

34a

Today the press of the nation carried the horrible news concerning the brutal killing of four Negroes, amongst them, one ex-serviceman, alongside a secluded road near Monroe, Ga. Constitution

In former years, those not from, or a part of the South, would quickly have branded the entire population of the South as madmen and ruthless killers. Not so today, however! Atlanta, Ga.

We who are not of the South fully realize that the overwhelming number of the citizens of the South are highly respectable, God-fearing, American citizens and that they emphatically abhor and fully disapprove the brutality as displayed a few days ago in Monroe. Wed. 7-31-46

We likewise know that the respectable, peace-loving citizens of Georgia, by lawful means, will do their utmost to see that the 20 brutal murderers, all of whom are heirs of Hitler's and Tojo's beastliness, will be speedily apprehended and be brought before an American court of justice and will be convicted and punished for their brutal crimes. 7-31-46

Americans, be we from the South, the North, or the East or West, let us in common decency, unite in our effort to completely eliminate the imitators of Hitler and Tojo before they brutally murder more American citizens. We must also remove from public office those public officials, high and low, who fail to adhere to the oath they took upon entering public office, namely, to uphold and defend American law and order. Let us put to an end the Hitler and Tojo way of life in America and destroy those brutal and cowardly persons who destroy American lives in order to satisfy their own cowardly and murderous desires.

F. C. GABRIEL.
Buffalo, N. Y.

7415

Monroe, Ga. Typical Of South's Cruel Jim Crow

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

Sat. 8-24-46

34a

MONROE, Ga., (ANP)—With its $28 monthly minimum salary for Negro school teachers, its public drinking fountains "for white only" and its "best people" shocked at the quadruple lynching which took place on July 25 in its midst, Walton County and Monroe, the county seat, are typical of the rural and small town sections of the South, a lifelong resident said last week.

Varied comments on the happening, which astounded even the most obtuse, continue, and samplings from a cross-section of the citizenry give an idea as to how the town is reacting.

The Rev. J. W. Segars, white, native-born pastor of Monroe's leading Methodist church, says "We were just stunned." A resolution against the atrocity was voted at his church on Sunday following the murders. It read:

"The congregation of the First Methodist Church of Monroe goes on record as condemning this outrage against humanity, and this church asks that local and county authorities cooperate in bringing those guilty of this hideous crime to justice, and we pledge our wholehearted cooperation."

The Rev. J. L. Drake, white, pastor of the leading Baptist church copied the Methodist resolution and presented it to his church for a voice vote. There were no nays. Each of these men seems genuinely upset about the murders of two men and their wives. Each blamed Eugene Talmadge, governor-elect and his campaign of race hate for inciting the crime. Both feel the "ignorant farmers" of the area are responsible.

"There are sorry white folks just as there are sorry Negroes, and there's an ignorant class here who have just grown up to hate, and make trouble," Rev. Drake said.

When it was suggested to a Monroe business man that some of the townspeople must know or have some idea about members of the mob he replied:

"It's not that I'm scared for myself, but I have a family, and that mob has gone so far now it will stop at nothing." This atitude, he felt, would be the basis for much of the silence which investigators have encountered and continue to face despite the large reward offered for evidence.

The business man, a member of the Democratic County committee, also held Eugene Talmadge responsible for the lynching. "You can't sow the seeds of racial hate without bearing a crop," he declared.

"The people who voted for Talmadge were mostly farmers. They want to keep one foot on the nigger's neck. If he behaves himself, they won't smash his head into the ground."

brutish enough to eat humans. I knew a fellow who knew a nigger

"Every time a white man kills a nigger, it's 'self-defense' and he goes unpunished. Yet in all the time I've been living here, all the trouble I've seen between niggers and whites, I don't believe I know of a single time when the nigger started it. It just doesn't happen."

The thinking of J. P. Adair, a 69-year-old retired farmer, is perhaps the type engaged in by the mob which ambushed and shot down four persons unable to defend themselves. Standing on the courthouse steps, "explaining the nigger problem," he ranted:

"Maybe they went too far in lynching all four of 'em, but if they'd just shot that one for cuttin' a white man I wouldn't a' cared a rap."

"You got to understand the niggers is the most brutish people they is. They're African savages, and you got to keep 'em down. They's the only people in the world who are made soup out of it and ate it.

"That's the kind of people niggers is. They don't think the same way as humans. They lie and steal and when they get drunk all they want is a white woman. You got to keep 'em down."

E. A. Caldwell, editor of the weekly Walton News for over 50 years, lamented the lynchings, but commented:

"You can't say what you feel about it. A mob who'd kill four niggers like that, they'd burn you out. If I knew anything, I would'nt tell nobody nothing, not for $10,000 or all the money in the world. It just ain't safe."

Monroe Negroes, who make up about one-third of the population, generally have incomes of less than $300 a year. The only professional Negro man in Walton county is the undertaker. There is no doctor, dentist or lawyer. Negro schools, piloted by the grossly underpaid teachers, are mere shacks, usually without electricity or water. The anti-Negro farmers of the area determine the school budgets. They also hold the political power, and law enforcement officials must please them to hold their jobs. 8-24-46

In the July 17 primary, records show that out of the 22,000 people in Walton county, less than 5,000 voted. Talmadge polled 2,201, and James Carmichael, 2,123. The town of Monroe voted two to one for Carmichael, with 1,253 for him, and 635 for Talmadge. Negroes, permitted to vote without incident, cast 332 ballots.

In numerous rural districts in the county, however, not a single Negro went to the polls, and only 60 votes were cast by them outside Monroe.

who had lived in Africa and he'd boiled up his father's head and

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Is Harrison Hard of Hearing?

The Courier

Woman Screamed Name of Mob Leader...He Can't Remember It

Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 8-3-46

34a

By Special Correspondent

MONROE, Ga.—Although Georgia Bureau of Investigation agents, headed by Major William E. Spence, are here in numbers to investigate the brutal slayings Thursday afternoon of four Walton County Negroes, two of them women, the officers are remaining fairly tight-lipped about developments in their probe. The same is true of the Federal Bureau of Investigation agents from Atlanta and Athens, who are checking into the massacre under the Civil Rights statutes.

Despite the silence of the investigators, it is considered an open secret among newspapermen and other observers here that they are particularly interested in several "unusual" phases of the bloody slayings. It is from these phases that most newsmen believe the first real lead that will result in solution of the case will come.

1. The officers particularly would like to know how the news of Roger Malcolm's release from jail under bond on charges of having stabbed Barney Hester, his wife's employer, leaked out fast enough for the mob to learn he was free. Less than two hours elapsed from the time Malcolm left the Walton County Jail until Loy Harrison, white farmer, from whose car the four Negroes were snatched, reported their slaying to authorities. The slayings occurred almost ten miles from Monroe, on a secluded rural clay highway—one on which automobiles cannot travel too rapidly.

2. The officers would like to know how the mob managed to keep its membership free of any person known to Loy Harrison, who has lived in this section virtually all his life. Harrison told authorities he did not recognize any member of the mob of twenty or more men, although none wore masks.

3. The officers would like to know why news of the brutal massacre did not "leak out" of Walton County until Friday morning, although it occurred late Thursday afternoon and an inquest was held Thursday night. 8-3-46

4. The officers would like to know how Middie Kate Malcolm, 20-year-old wife of Roger Malcolm, recognized one of the mob and called his name—an act which cost her, George Dorsey, and Mary Dorsey their lives—yet Loy Harrison, a life-long resident of the county, did not recognize any of the mobsters, according to his own statement. Too, the officers would like to know why Harrison could not remember the name Middie Kate Malcolm screamed out as the murder-bent mob took her ex-GI husband from Harrison's machine. Sat

Sooner or later, the newsmen here believe, some trickle of information about one of these four factors is going to reach the ears of the State and Federal sleuths and the full story of the massacre will out. The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

THE Watchtower

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich

THE MOST OBVIOUS aspect of the lynching of two men and two women by a Georgia mob was its brutality. In this respect it is not, as has been claimed on all sides, the most brutal and horrible lynching of all time. But it certainly takes its place near the top of the brutal lynchings that have been staged in America. Sat. 8-10-46

Roy Wilkins

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In their horror that this thing could happen in 1946, the commentators have forgotten the Lowman triple lynching in 1926 near Aiken, S.C. There one victim was a woman, Bertha Lowman. The others were her brother, Demon, and Clarence, her 13-year-old cousin. The white people said they thought the Lowman family were moonshiners. The sheriff and some deputies went out to their farmhouse, did not announce themselves as police, drew guns and advanced on Bertha and her mother, as the men folks were out in the field at work. The sheriff struck Bertha, the mother came to her aid, and a deputy killed the mother. Demon and Clarence heard the screams and shot, came running, grabbed guns, and soon the sheriff was shot dead. The three young people were tried, sentenced to death, but N. J. Frederick, a colored lawyer, courageously appealed their case on his own responsibility. On a directed verdict at the new hearing Demon Lowman was freed, but the other two were held for trial.

That night the sheriff permitted himself to be "overpowered" by a mob, the three Lowmans were given an automobile ride into the country, told to run across a field, and were shot down like rabbits. Bertha did not die at once and was finished off with a half dozen shots as she lay squirming on the ground.

So how far have we really come, as a civilized nation, in 20 years? How much difference is there between Aiken, S.C., in 1926 and Monroe, Ga., in 1946? True, we do not have as many lynchings today as we had then. True, more people condemn the crime today than spoke out then. But have the communities themselves changed basically? Have the people? There is little evidence that they have.

Nobody will talk in Monroe. Nobody talked in Aiken. Aiken screamed that the old New York "World," which sent a special reporter, was "interfering" in Aiken affairs. Today Senator Russell of Georgia says he thinks the Monroe crime should be left to Georgia authorities.

In astonishing contrast to Georgia, Mississippi (of all places!) is holding six white men without bail, charged with first degree murder, for beating to death a Negro farm laborer. And, wonder of wonders, another Mississippi town—Hattiesburg—is holding a deputy sheriff in jail for shooting a Negro to death! These people may never be convicted, or they may get off with light sentences, but at least they have been arrested and properly charged. In Georgia, up to this writing, the combined forces of Georgia and the Federal government have not been able to make an arrest. It would be the irony of ironies if Mississippi should emerge (in this instance) as the shining example of justice, irrespective of the color of the victims or the criminals.

World Youth Body Blasts Ga. Terror

New York, N.Y.

Thurs 8-3-46

PARIS (By Mail).—Lynch terror in the United States was condemned as a threat to peace in a unanimous resolution passed by the governing council of the World Federation of Democratic Youth, now meeting here. The body, representing major youth movements in 53 countries, decided on July 30 to call on Secretary Byrnes to condemn the "lynch atrocities and rising tide of fascist terror which are being perpetrated against the Negro people in Georgia, Mississippi and the southern part of the United States. Daily Worker gen.

"The growing Ku Klux Klan movement and the wave of terror against Negroes in the United States," the statement said, "is revealed as one of the most active fascist forces in the world today and represents a threat to the consolidation of peace and the realization of democracy.".

The action was taken on a motion by Mrs. Dorothy Burnham, educational director of the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

34a

Cuba Negroes Ask Lynchers Be Tried

Daily Worker
New York N.Y.

HAVANA, Cuba (By mail).—Capture and trial of "the gangsters of Georgia" has been urged on the U. S. Government by the National Federation of Cuban Negro Organizations.

34a

The Monroe, Georgia lynching of four Negroes, a statement charged, demonstrates "before the surprised eyes of the world that even now in the southern part of the United States there exists . . . the same social evils and injustices for the disappearance of which have fought and died (sad irony!) millions of human beings of all races who believed that only the Nazi hordes were capable of committing such cold-blooded assassinations." gen.

Thurs 8-3-46

The Federation called for "rapid and exemplary punishment" of the lynchers and invited all other Cuban organizations to join in the demand for "rapid and exemplary punishment" of the lynchers.

Georgia Folk Point Finger At Harrison In Lynching Of Four

Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 8-10-46

By RUSS J. COWANS

Who was responsible for the brutal lynching of the four persons—George and Mae Dorsey and Roger and Dorothy Malcolm—on a lonely road just eight miles from Monroe, Ga., July 25?

34a

The FBI and Georgia Bureau of Investigation have been searching for the guilty parties since, but without results. gen.

But to Negro residents of Monroe who were willing to talk, this is not a hard problem to solve.

RUSS J. COWANS, Managing Editor of The Michigan Chronicle, spent three days in Monroe, Ga., searching for information on the mass lynchings. Read his findings in this issue. See exclusive pictures on back page.

They point the finger at J. Loy Harrison, the man who was driving the two couples when they were ambushed by 20 or 30 unmasked men. And they give several good reasons.

First, they point out that George Dorsey, an ex-G.I. who was a share-cropper on Harrison's plantation, had had an argument with Harrison. The plantation owner had ordered Dorsey off the plantation, but Dorsey, who had 10 acres of cotton, refused to leave, telling Harrison that he had endured more than that in the South Pacific, and would be able to stand everything Harrison did.

Was Finger Man?

Second, they point to the fight between Roger Malcolm and Barney Hester, 22-year-old white farmer whom Malcolm accused of going with his common-law wife, Dorothy. Hester was severely cut in the fight that followed.

These Negroes believe that the lynching was planned a week or more before it actually occurred, and that Harrison was the "finger man" in the ambush.

They argued that the mob agreed that Harrison should take the two women with him so that they could be witnesses that the mob had over-powered Harrison and taken the two men away from him. But this plan went astray when one of the women recognized one of the men in the mob.

gen.

It was further argued by these Negroes that Harrison was busy between two o'clock Thursday, when he bailed Malcolm out of jail, and five o'clock when he left Monroe, in notifying members of the mob of the exact time he would leave. The Chronicle

In our talk with Harrison, he tried to impress us that he was in need of all the help he could get for the crops, and that he was "as mad as anybody, the way they killed my niggers." But Negro residents are convinced Harrison is lying. Detroit, Mich.

They also do not believe Harrison when he told officials that he did not recognize any of the mob although one of the unmasked lynchers stood close enough to hold a gun to his head.

"Harrison is a big liar," said one resident. "I'm willing to bet my last dollar that he knows every man in the mob. Why, the guy has been around here all of his life and knows every person within 20 or 25 miles." Sat. 8-10-46

"If the FBI would take Harrison to Atlanta and put him in jail and let him sweat it out for a week or more, I'll bet he would crack," said a white attorney who was representing the Atlanta branch of the NAACP. "This is an easy case to crack."

Outrageous Lynching Of 4 Black Folk Shocks Entire American Negro World

The West African Pilot
Lagos, W. Africa

34a

NEW YORK, Sept. 10.—The Negro world in America has been alarmed over the reports of inspired lynching of American Negroes in the South State of Georgia in recent days. Wed. 9-11-46

gen.

Although since the abolition of slavery, Negroes in the South States have had to fight more than other Negroes in the United States of America for freedom from white oppression, the reports of the last few years beat no atrocity and wickedness that had hitherto been recorded in the history of American Negroes.

For sometime now Negroes have been persistently warned to keep off the Polls in the South if they were wise, and even though the threats thus bluntly put had been seriously rebuked, Negroes have had on several occasions to keep off elections for fear of lynching.

HORRIBLE LYNCHINGS

Recently a cablegram got into the hands of President Truman, saying:

"The horrible lynchings last Thursday following in the wake of a campaign of race hate, intimidation and threats of violence by Eugene Talmadge, newly elected Governor of Georgia, and by Senator T. Bilbo, of Mississippi show the break down of constitutional protection; for American Negroes in the South." 34a gen.

The telegram then went to plead that the Senali should legislate against such acts directly. (gen.)

What happened was that recently four friends had gone in to bail an American Negro, Roger Malcolm, who was kept in custody in Monroe, forty miles from Atlanta, charged for stabbing his white employer, one Barney Hester

Having passed through all formalities and paid £150 bail, Malcolm was released and was driven along with others by one Loy Harrison a white friend who had specially requested that Malcolm be released. West African Pilot

Six miles away from Monroe, Harrison turned his car off the main road and into a rough side road, trying to get a short cut home.

BRIDGE IS BLOCKED

At a wooden bridge, Harrison jammed on the brakes, the bridge having been blocked by a car.

From it ran out a band of twenty unmasked white men armed with pistols.

Without much ado, and having addressed the group as rudely as they thought fit, they got on to the wives of these negroes who had been in the car, dragged them besides their now tied husbands, and shot three volleys into these two Negro couples, and they were gone. Lagos, W. Africa

The news has since been reported to the government and £2,500 has been offered to anyone who could give any help in tracing the culprits but the thousands in Georgia are silent and the police claim to have "run into a stone wall." Wed. 9-11-46

7416 full

Protests on Georgia Lynchings Mount

Daily Worker

34a

Special to the Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Although official silence is becoming thicker concerning the Georgia lynching of four Negroes, protests and actions are continuing to grow throughout the nation.

IN BUFFALO a joint faculty and student meeting of more than 500, on the campus of the University of Buffalo, demanded action from President Truman and Attorney General Clark. Addressing the meeting were Dr. Olive Lefter, of the department of psychology; Williams Evans, the Urban League; John Sommer, American Youth for Democracy, and Ed Landy, United Electrical Workers, CIO.

IN PITT[redacted] Klan terror.

[redacted]lutions urging President Truman to act and demanding that Talmadge not be seated were passed.

[redacted] Steel Workers, [redacted] Wright, Brick and [redacted] Union; Roy Hudson, [redacted] Communist Party, District of Western Pennsylvania, and John Williamson, national labor secretary, Communist Party. Thurs.

IN TAMPA a mass meeting initiated by the Joint Advisory Board of the Cigar Makers International Union, AFL, and sponsored by 13 other labor, civic and Negro people's organizations, condemned the "Hitler-like acts" and took steps to form a citywide organization to fight future terror against Negroes.

Sen. Pepper wired the meeting: "This despicable crime is a great tragedy." 8-8-46

Sponsors were: National Maritime Union; Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; National Negro Congress; Negro Small Businessmen's League; Baptist Ministers Alliance; Interdenominational Ministers Alliance; Methodist Ministers' Alliance; Renovacion Espanola; Agrupacio Benefica Cultural; Bakery and Confectionery Workers, Local 361, AFL.

IN BOSTON U. S. Attorney Edmond Brandon of the Boston Federal District told a delegation of 250 that it should forward protests to Attorney General Tom Clark with his recommendation.

The delegation was called and headed by Rev. W. O. Childers, First African Methodist Episcopal Church, Roxbury; William E. Harrison, associate editor of the Boston Chronicle and Communist candidate for State Representative, and Walter O'Brien, chairman of the Emergency Citizens' Labor Committee. Several churches, CIO and AFL unions, Communist groups and civic and fraternal organizations were represented. 8-3-46

Harrison earlier addressed an emergency National Maritime Union meeting which [redacted] unless speedy feder[redacted] a one-day stoppage [redacted] in the port of Boston.

IN NEW YORK mass telegrams to President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark, with 1,026 signatures, were sent by the Civil Rights Congress of New York. Also forwarded by the CRC was a petition of 1,500 signatures collected by Local 65, Wholesale, Retail and Warehouse Union. 8-3-46

IN PATERSON, N. J., a mammoth rally will be held this Friday at 7:30 p.m., on the steps of the Paterson City Hall.

12,000 Jam Detroit Anti-Lynching Rally

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Thurs 8-22-46

DETROIT—(ANP)— In the shadows of the Sojourner Truth statue which adorns the Soldiers and Sailors monument at the head Cadillac square in the heart of down town Detroit, more than 12,000 white and Negro persons jammed into the square Sunday in a mass protest anti-lynching rally.

A parade designated as "Detroit's Memorial March" preceded the rally when thousands lined the streets and marched from the civic center all the way down town, past the city hall and into the square, with banners of all descriptions in evidence. The slogan was "Help Bring the Four Freedoms to Georgia."

34a

Heading the parade was a battery of uniformed soldiers, veterans of the late war, carrying Old Glory. Thirty cooperating organizations forming one big committee were headed up by the Rev. Charles A. Hill, president of the NAACP and chairman of the old Citizens committee who also acted as master of ceremonies.

SPEAKERS CHEERED

Speeches were the order of the day. All condemned the mass murder of Monroe, Georgia, the recent lynchings in Tennessee, North Carolina and other southern states; the fast growing and wide-spreading American fascist movement and the Ku Klux Klan. A very orderly, but deeply sincere crowd cheered the speakers to the echo.

Rev. Hill said "The preachers of today are no longer basing all their sermons on how to die; they are preaching more how to live. Doing a little less preaching and more fighting. They are trying to bring that heaven on earth which we talk so much about and pray so much for."

Wires were sent to Pres. Harry Truman, Atty. Gen. Tom Clark and to Gov. Ellis Arnall of Georgia which admonished these officials to arrest and punish all who lynch people in the south and to investigate thoroughly all Ku Klux Klan activity. The crowd was instructed to write their senators and congressmen, urging them to take a hand, to use their voices, votes and influences to see that an anti-lynch bill is passed. Mayor Jeffries and his police department came in for their share of condemnation by some of the speakers.

World Reporters Revisit Lynch Scene

The World Memphis, Tenn.

Tues. 8-6-46

By GEORGE H. ANDREWS

(Mr. Andrews visited Walton and Oconee Counties in company with Ruth L. Cornelius and Joel W. Smith, staff correspondents)

MONROE, Ga.—(SNS) — Everything was quiet here Friday, therefore we decided to make a tour of Walton and adjoining counties and see what we could find. We went for a visit to the scene of the lynching and to the homes of the victims.

34a

We went over the murder route. We talked with every colored person we could find along the way. We spent some time at the murder scene and a good deal of time talking with the relatives of the victims.

We saw Mr. Loy Harrison at his home and talked with him. Not about the murder but about other things. We saw "Spot," the dog which was present at the lynching. We went into the home of the murder victims. We examined the farm of George Dorsey and saw his fine crop of cotton. We saw the flowers tended by his wife.

We measured the distance from the death spot to the nearest house and found it to be two-tenths of a mile or about the distance from Butler Street to Ivey Street.

BAPTISTS IN PILGRIMAGE TO LYNCH VICTIM'S GRAVE

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Sun. 9-8-46

BY RUTH CORNELIUS

MONROE, Ga. — (SNS) — Pensylvania Baptists headed by Dr. Leonard George Carr, president of the Pennsylvania Baptists and Dr. Bertram E. Barton, national commander of National Baptist Veterans led a pilgrimage here Friday to the grave of George Dorsey, lynch victim of the recent atrocity of Walton County.

34a

Included in the group were: Dr. Henry T. McCrary, pastor of Tasker Street Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pa.; Dr. C. H. Churn, pastor of North Penn Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pa; Dr. David B Banks ,pastor of New Shiloh Baptist, Turner Station, Md., chairman of the Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention; Dr. Aaron Mackley, pastor Mount Olive Baptist Church, Arlington, Va., Mrs. Carrie Cunningham and James Williams, of Atlanta.

Daniel Young, local funeral director, escorted the party to the cemetery, scene o fthe crime, where a short service was held and to the cemetery.

GRAVESIDE RITES

An impressive ceremony held at the graveside was opened by prayer by Rev. H. D. McCrary, who sought divine guidance in the setting up of a feeling of kinship among men throughout the nation and the world.

"We are here for we believe that the four victims did not die in vain, said Dr. Carr, "for their death has set into motion a movement that will bring greater justice for all humanity."

Continuing, he said, "We came to place a wreath on this grave because we believe that there is still hope for that democracy for which George Dorsey fought and to dedicate ourselves to see that the child of Roger Malcolm will have a better opportunity for an education so that he might exemplify the desires of freedom of these martyrs."

34a

Dr. Barton, as he placed the wreath on Dorsey's grave said:

"On this hallowed ground I place this wreath on the grave of George Dorsey in the name of the National Baptist Veterans, the Veterans Committee of Pennsylvania and of veterans everywhere with the hope that men, women, children and unborn generations may know that these four victims did not die in vain." Daily World

Rev. Mackley said: "This occasion should give new vigor and hope in the rededication of our lives to freedom and make this world a better place in which to live and see that justice becomes one justice for all." Atlanta, Ga.

"Tragedy created a fire not so easily extinguished. Negro America must cooperate in having the world understand that the Negro, a true American, wants just the freedoms that other peoples want," asserted Dr. Banks. Sun. 9-8-46

McCRARY STATEMENT

Dr. McCrary made the following statement:

"I am sure all are keenly sensitive of the occasion and because of the sensitivity we have come—we are concerned about our people — we are not separate regardless of the place we live, we are one and a part of a common lot scattered throughout the nation."

Dr. Churn declared, "We are conscious of the fact that what affects one Negro affects all Negroes. This regrettable incident will never be forgotten."

William A. Scott III, World photographer and a World War II veteran, said, "This incident shows that there is a crying need for cooperation between the races to the end that greater understanding exists. This cooperation must take place in the South as well as in other sections of the nation."

Charlotte, N. C., Observer
Aug. 7, 1946

PATRIOTIC SONS PROTEST GEORGIA NEGRO MASSACRE

FLORENCE, S. C., Aug. 6.—At a special session of the Patriotic Sons of the Republic league for the Protection of Human Rights here a protest was lodged by the members against the lynch massacre of four Negroes which took place in Georgia recently.

34a

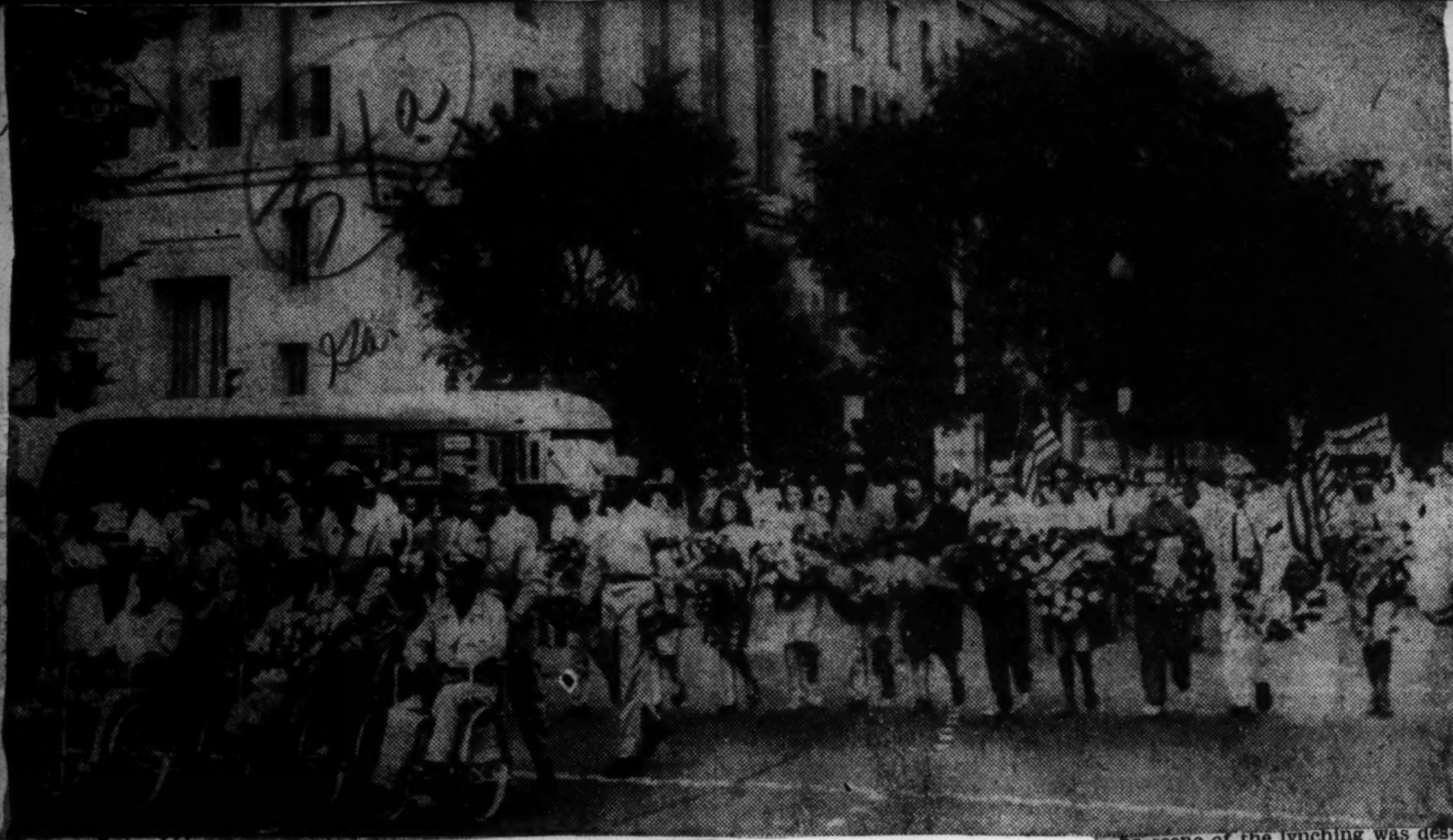
Charlotte, N. C., Observer
Aug. 8, 1946

METHODIST CONFERENCE CONDEMNS GA. LYNCHING

LAKE JUNALUSKA, Aug. 7. — Closing a South-wide missionary conference here today, a Methodist body went on record by unanimous vote in condemning the recent lynching of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., and pledged support of law enforcement agencies in Georgia in bringing the offenders to justice.

34a

Rev. L. M. Twiggs, pastor of First Methodist church, Gainesville, Ga., who presented the paper for adoption, quoted the historic position of the Methodist church on such matters and the paper continued with the statement that "this conference composed of representative ministers from the Southeastern jurisdiction of the Methodist church, embracing states that comprise the heart of the Old South, reaffirmed its faith in, and loyalty to, the church which speaks in plain terms on these matters. We condemn, with all the fervor of our own outraged and deeply stirred souls, the ruthless disregard of human life and human rights as manifested in the recent lynching of four Negroes in Walton county, Georgia. We do not feel that the law enforcement agencies in Georgia need to be urged by resolutions to go to their limit in the performance of their duty in this and all cases of like nature."



Daily World

MARCH OF MOURNING-LYNCHING PROTEST PARADE IN CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Ten thousand mourners marched in Washington last night to honor victims of lynchings and mob violence in the South. Muffled drums thumped the cadence for the marchers as they paraded past the Justice Department Building in their demonstration for justice. Three Negro veteran amputees are in the van, S. Sgt. Ernest Mobley, of Orlando, Florida; Sgt. Andrew Hopps, of Baltimore, Maryland, and Sgt. Connie Bovian, of New York City.—(Photograph by A. E. Scott, INP.)

Atlanta Ga

Russian Paper Had Full Story Of The Ga. Lynching

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

34a

6-15-46

NEW YORK—(SNS)— Dr. Louie D. Newton, pastor of Druid Hills Baptist church, Atlanta, upon his return from a tour of Russia, said that the Russian people do not want war and are not talking war." Talking to reporters as he arrived at La Guardia Field, he said he was talking of the Russian people and not of the "politicians and diplomats."

Thursday

He said that he read the full [illegible] of the lynching of four Ne- [illegible] in Moscow's newspaper Pravda. Answering a question. Dr. Newton described the incident as "deplorable" and "not in any sense representative of the people of Georgia who are trying for a better way of life."

Dr. Newton traveled as a member of an American delegation making a four-week tour of the Soviet Union for the American Society for Russian Relief.

History's Worst Lynching Takes 2 Women, 2 Men

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Saturday 7-27-46

34a

By JOEL W. SMITH

MONROE, Ga.—(SNS)—Mob violence broke out in Georgia late Thursday afternoon, when a group of white men armed with pistols, shotguns and rifles lynched two Negro couples on a side-road 10 miles from here. Sheriff E. S. Gordon reported Friday.

The victims, Roger Malcolm, Mrs. Dorothy Malcolm, George Dorsey and Mrs. Mae M. Dorsey were riding in an automobile with J. Loy Harrison, a white farmer, enroute to Oconee County, when halted by the mob at a bridge over the Apalachee River.

RELEASED ON BOND ....

According to Sherriff Gordon Mr. Malcom had just been released from jail under bond charges of stabbing B. H. Hester, Jr., his employer.

he scene of the lynching was described as Moore's Ford Bridge, in Walton County less than 75 feet from the Oconee County line.

The inquest was conducted at the scene Thursday night, by Tom Brown, coroner of Walton County, and according to Deputy Sheriff C. J. Sorrells, Mr. Harrison was the only witness.

Sat.

HARRISON VERSION

Deputy Sherriff Sorrells quoted Mr. Harrison as saying that he carried the Dorsey couple and Mrs. Malcolm to Monroe around 2 o'clock Thursday and that Mr. Malcolm was released shortly aftre 5:00 p .m .

7-27-46

Mr. Harrison and the Negro couples were not on the main Monroe-Athens Highway, but were traveling on a side-road, when the mob blocked the road and took the two men from the car.

Mr. Harrison reported that the mob forced him to move away from the car and after tying the men with ropes marched them a short distance from the car.

MOBSTER RECOGNIZED

As the white men marched the men away from the car, Mr. Malcolm's wife is said to have recognized one of the mobsters, and addressing him by name, asked him "not to let them kill her husband."

Then the leader of the mob is said to have yelled "I guess you better bring those damned women along, too."

Mr. Harrison was quoted as saying that he did not see the actual lynching, and that as soon as he was released, he notified the sheriff.

7-27-46

BODIES FOUND

When Sheriff Gordon and his deputies reached the scene of the lynching, they found the two men tied with ropes and the bodies of their wives were just a few feet away. It was evident that the members of the mob had concentrated their shots at the chests and head of the victims and the bullet wounds were too numerous to count.

Following the coroner's inquest the sheriff said Mr. Harrison testified that he was unable to identify any of the mob and the coroner's jury returned a verdict that the victims met their death at the hands of unknown parties.

ANGLE STABBING

According to authenic sources, the stabbing which is regarded as the background of the lynching took place about two weeks ago, when Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm were engaged in a family fight.

Mrs. Malcolm is reported to have gone to Mr. Hester's home and told him about the fight. When Mr. Hester arrived, Mr. Malcolm is said to have told him," "I have heard that you were going with my wife." Then the two men started scuffling and after being stabbed, Mr. Hester was carried to the Walton County Hospital.

34a

7-27-46

It was also reported that immediately after the stabbing a group of white men came to Malcolm's home and threatened to kill him, when a white woman interceded and called the sherriff. This lady is said to have told the men Malcolm was a good boy and wouldn't bother anyone unless they bothered him. She requested the sheriff to lock him up for his own protection.

TO PROBE LYNCHINGS

Major W. E. Spence, director of the Georgia Department of Public Safety and representative from the State Bureau of Investigation were on the scene, Friday, and made it clear that they will join Sheriff Gordon in investigation the lynchings.

7-27-46

In Washington Friday, Attorney General Tom Clark's office announced that he has ordered a complete investigation. into the slayings. hese investigators will be carried out by the civil rights sections of the Department of Justice.

Brunswick, Ga., News
Sept. 27, 1946

Several Thousand Letters Received About Lynching

Washington, Sept. 27. (AP)—The Justice Department said today it has received "several thousand" letters deploring the lynching of four negroes near Monroe, Ga., last July 25.

34a

A Department official told a reporter that the letters expressed "outrage" at the action of 20-odd unmasked white men in shooting two negro farm hands and their wives. Most of them request Federal action.

"Most of them came from the North but letters received from Southern states, including Georgia, also have deplored this mass murder," the official said, adding:

"The letters were written by public-spirited citizens and by civic, labor, religious and veterans organizations. Some were mimeographed by such organizations and signed by individual members."

The official said the Department receives "an occasional letter stating that the public has received just one side of this story. A few letters have recounted alleged outrages by negroes which the writers of the letters said were unpunished.'

FBI agents have been investigating the Monroe case since July 26.

7417

Arrest Lynchers, Rally Here Demands

Daily Worker

Thurs. 8-1-46

A call for "death to the lynchers" brought thunderous cheers from an anti-lynch demonstration yesterday at Madison Sq. Park. The protest rally, jointly sponsored by the National Negro Congress and the Civil Rights Congress, against the lynch wave sweeping the South, demanded that President Truman take "forthright and far-reaching action" against the lynchers.

The meeting passed a resolution calling on the government to prosecute Sen. Bilbo and Governor-elect Talmadge of Georgia **"for incitement to violcnce and murder."**

"We call upon the Senate Committee on Elections and Privileges to refuse to permit the seating of Sen. Bilbo in the next Congress," the resolution read.

New York

The emergency demonstration, called as the lynch wave reached its climax in the murder of the two Negro couples in Georgia last Friday, heard representatives of trade unions, veteran organizations, women groups, Jewish and Negro bodies and the American Labor Party and Communist Party urge united action on a national scale to halt the rising of terror against the Negro people and the minorities in America.

N.Y.

When Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress and with Meyer S. Stern, chairman of the Board of the Civil Rights Congress of New York, co-chairman of the rally, called for **"death to Bilbo and death to Talmadge"** as murderers and conspirators for violence against the Negro people, the demonstrators cheered and waved their placards.

Thurs. 8-1-46

John Williamson, member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party, received a roar of acclaim when he stepped to the microphone. He charged the lynchings in Georgia, Mississippi and the Freeport killing were "not accidental; they were organized by the white supremacists."

Williamson accused the Department of Justice with neglect in ferreting out the killers and said such neglect encouraged the KKK and the Southern Bourbon.

New York

Bert Alves, regional director of the United Negro and Allied Veterans, said that a "delegation would knock at Truman's door" today and insist on "action, not words."

Mayor William O'Dwyer sent a message to the rally condemning the Georgia lynching.

N.Y.

Telegrams from Sen. Robert F. Wagner and Sen James M. Mead condemning the atrocities and insisting on federal and state action to bring the killers to justice, were read.

Ga. Lynch Victims May Be Exhumed

Daily Worker - 34a Thurs. 8-1-46

New York, N.Y.

NMU OFFERS $5,000 REWARD FOR GUILTY

The CIO National Maritime Union yesterday offered a $5,000 reward for the "apprehension and conviction of the Georgia lynchers." In a telegram to President Truman on behalf of the membership and the national office, secretary Ferdinand Smith stated: "This storm troop butchery is designed to hamper effective efforts by labor to organize the South, because fascist elements fear that strong trade union organization below the Mason - Dixon Line will successfully combat lyneh terror incited by the Bilboes and the Talmadges."

By Art Shields

MONROE, Ga., July 31.—War veteran George Dorsey and his wife, and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Malcolm, the two Negro sharecropper couples killed in the mass lynching last week, may have been buried too soon.

Thurs. 8-1-46

Another murder inquest may be necessary if the G-men Pres. Truman has sent in as a result of a nationwide protest are to get all the evidence.

There is some reason to believe, say some investigators, that all the bullets fired into the four young peoples' bodies by the mob of 20 or more killers last week, were not extracted before the funeral rites.

Bullets fit guns. Every slug fired in the 60 or more gun blasts at the death scene on the edge of the swamp ten miles from Monroe July 25 is needed to bring every one of these bestial cowards to the electric chair.

The Walton County coroner's inquest may have been finished too quickly.

Meanwhile the murder of Georgia Negroes continues.

New York

The seventh such killing since Eugene Talmadge was nominated for Governor on a "white supremacy" ticket July 17 was reported today from the city of Moutrie in Colquitt County, not far from the Florida border.

N.Y.

The victim was Sutter Matthews, a sawmill worker from Sylvester in adjoining Worth County, where the Talmadge forces are especially strong. The killers had laid the corpse across the tracks of the Georgia Northern Railroad, his head lay across one rail, the feet across the other.

"I couldn't stop until the car had passed over the body," said R. V. Holt, the driver of a one-car motor train, who hit the dead man at night.

Thurs. 8-1-46

But Holt had nothing to do with the killing.

"We found a bad wound behind Matthews ear," said Deputy Sheriff T. V. Beard in a long distance telephone talk with this reporter. "The wound had been made before Matthews was laid on the tracks. Yes, we think someone killed him. A blunt instrument of some kind was the weapon."

The body was taken back to Sylvester by his employer, a sawmill proprietor named Eaton, said Beard, and the Colquitt County coroner F. C. White has closed the case with the verdict "cause unknown."

REWARDS OFFERED HERE

Two Groups Seek Information on Georgia Lynching

Times - New York, N.Y.

Rewards amounting to $15,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the guilty persons in the recent lynching of four Negroes at Monroe, Ga., were announced yesterday by two organizations here.

Thurs. 34a 46

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 20 West Fortieth Street, posted $10,000, according to Walter White, executive secretary. The National Maritime Union, 346 West Seventeenth Street, offered $5,000 in honor of 6,000 seamen who died in World War II.

Mr. White declared that two letters he had received from Atlanta revealed indignation and fear. He said a Negro business man wrote that "here in Georgia not even the life of the Governor is secure." A letter from a white Georgian said: "If we can't break this case no one's life will be safa in Georgia."

Mr. White reported that investigators for the association had uncovered "probable cause" for the lynching of the four persons at Monroe. This and other information had been placed at the disposal of State and Federal officials, he said.

3,500 at Demonstration

Thirty-five hundred persons answered a call of the National Negro Congress and the Civil Rights Congress for a demonstration at Madison Square Park yesterday at 5:30 P. M. With the park roped off, the crowd assembled in Madison Avenue, from Twenty-third to Twenty-fifth Streets. A heavy police detail was assigned to the meeting. Dr. Max Yergan, president of the Negro Congress, presided.

A message bearing Mayor O'Dwyer's signature was read. It said:

"The people of this city have been horrified at the spectacle of

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LYNCH REWARDS $22,500

Times - New York, N.Y.

Colored People's Association Posts $10,000 in Georgia Case

Thurs. 8-1-46

34a

MONROE, Ga., July 31 (U.P.)—Rewards for the arrest of the men who lynched four Negroes in Walton County last week increased to $22,500 today as Solicitor Gen. Marshall Pollock deplored a spreading impression that local authorities are not cooperating in the hunt.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People offered rewards totaling $10,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the lynching party members, almost matching the $10,500 posted by the State of Georgia.

ARNALL THANKS TRUMAN

Times - New York, N.Y.

Georgia's Governor Lauds U. S. Aid in Lynching Investigation

Thurs. 8-1-46

34a

ATLANTA, July 31 (AP)—Gov. Ellis Arnall sent a telegram to President Truman today thanking him for Federal cooperation in the investigation of the lynching of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., last week.

The Governor also sent telegrams of appreciation to Attorney General Tom Clark and Federal Bureau of Investigation Chief J. Edgar Hoover. Governor Arnall's telegram to the President follows:

"I greatly appreciate the full cooperation of the Federal Government, the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in assisting State and local authorities to apprehend the desperadoes who lynched four Negroes in Walton County, Ga., on July 25. The crime against civilization must be punished. Lynchings must stop. Regards."

Fairburn Passes Law To Ban Riot Meeting

Atlanta, Ga. Journal

7-30-46

34a

The City Council of Fairburn Monday night went on public record as resolved to protect the civil rights of its people when it passed an ordinance prohbiting the meeting of one or more persons for the purpose of inciting a riot.

The mayor of Fairburn is Dan Duke, who also serves as state assistant attorney general and is waging a court fight to outlaw the Ku Klux Klan in Georgia.

Four of the six-man council voted for the pioneer city ordinance.

Ga.

The law provides that any man or group of men who congregate within Fairburn's city limits to injure civil rights shall be fined not less than $10 and not more than $100, and on top of the fine he may be given a prison sentence of 30 days.

Further evidence of national horror over the Walton County massacre was evidenced Tuesday when National Commander Jack W Hardy, of the American Veterans of World War II, called on veterans to maintain "ceaseless vigilance" against conditions which lead to lynchings.

In Washington, Georgia senators showed coolness to the request of Georgia's Safety Director W. E. Spence for federal anti-lynching legislation as the result of the slaughter of the four Negroes.

7-30-46

Both Senators Walter F. George and Richard B. Russell said they saw no possibility that Congress would pass such a law before it adjourns Friday.

In a statement, Senator Russell declared: "I deplore the crime, but I am not willing to admit Georgia is unable to enforce its own laws within its own borders without outside help. I am surprised that a man charged with enforcing the law would admit his own incapacity to cope with murder."

Arnall Wires Truman Lynch Probe Thanks

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
July 31, 1946

Governor Promises Full Co-operation of State's Agencies in Solving Walton County Slayings

34a

Governor Ellis Arnall Wednesday wired President Truman and other federal officials that he welcomes and appreciates federal aid in solving the four Walton County lynchings and punishing the murderers.

The Chief Executive promised the full co-operation of state authorities in solving the slayings and bringing the mob members to justice.

Governor Arnall said he had instructed Major William E. Spence, director of the State Department of Public Safety, to stay on the job himself in Walton County until the crimes are solved, and that Major Spence has assigned six officers of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to the job with him.

More Investigators

There were reports around the Capitol that the Federal Bureau of Investigation already has 12 operatives at work in Walton County and is sending 25 more on orders of Director J. Edgar Hoover.

(The office of J. Edgar Hoover, FBI chief, in Washington refused to divulge the number of special agents working on the Monroe case, and a spokesman there told The Journal there was "no information regarding the report of threats against FBI men in Walton County.)

Major Spence has printed handbills citing offers of a total of $14.000 in rewards for the apprehension of the mob members and scattered several thousand copies in Walton and five adjoining counties. The bills have been placed in every mail box in five counties.

Governor Arnall's telegram to President Truman said:

"I greatly appreciate the full co-operation of the Federal Government, the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in assisting state and local authorities to apprehend the desperadoes who lynched four Negroes in Walton County, Georgia, on July 25. This crime against civilization must be punished. Lynchings must stop. Regards."

Message to Clark

To Attorney General Tom Clark Governor Arnall said:

"Greatly appreciate the invaluable assistance of the Department [illegible] in connection with the [illegible] lynchings of four [illegible] Those who perpetrated this abominable crime against civilization must be apprehended and punished. Lynchings in America must stop. Thanks and regards."

The wire to Director J. Edgar Hoover follows:

"Am most appreciative of the invaluable assistance being rendered by Federal Bureau of Investigation in connection with the Walton County lynchings of four Negroes on July 25. The mob that perpetrated this outrage must be discovered and punished. I know that you and your excellent department will go the full limit in assisting state and local officials. Thanks and regards."

Asked if a federal crime angle had been discovered that would authorize the trial of the mob members in Federal Court, Governor Arnall said he had not investigated that angle, but it was possible the Federal Government might proceed against the mob members for violation of civil rights.

"The right to live is one of the rights guaranted by the Federal Constitution," he added.

The police officials working in Walton County had no comment as they tracked down one clue after another seeking the identity of the 20-man mob responsible for the slayings.

Civitan Resolution

In Atlanta the Civitan Club termed the incident "a bloody page in the state's record" and declared in a formal resolution:

"So long as Georgai harbors men who in deliberate defiance of the law join together to murder four helpless Negroes, the life of no person in the state is safe from violence of mobs."

H. S. Bynes, of Macon, editor and founder of the Sunday School Worker, wrote Senators Walter F. George and Richard B. Russell urging that they stimulate congressional action to prevent similar mob violence in the future.

In New York and Washington other groups continued to demand federal action on lynching laws and to protest the mob slaying.

Walton Official Deplores Non-Co-operative Rumor

MONROE, Ga., July 31.—(UP). A Superior Court official of Walton County where four Negroes were lynched last week Wednesday condemned the spread of an impression that local citizens are not co-operating in efforts to bring the killers to justice.

A statement from Solicitor General D. Marshall Pollock followed charges several days ago by Major W. E. Spence, chief of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, that "the best citizens of the county refused to help us in the case."

Mr. Pollock said Major Spence had "corrected the misquotations" but that the impression is still spreading.

He said citizens of the county are "shocked and grieved at the wanton act of a few."

Mr. Pollock explained that the first act of local law enforcement authorities after the crime was discovered was to bring the FBI and G. B. I. into the investigation.

Mobile, Ala. Press
Aug. 2, 1946

STORY OF GEORGIA'S LYNCHING TO BE TOLD

34a

"The Horrors of the Lynch Mob," a story of the lynching of four persons—including two women—at Monroe, Ga., last week, will be related here by a special investigator who visited the scene of tragedy within hours after it happened.

The public is invited to be present Sunday at the St. Louis St. Baptist Church, Dearborn and St. Louis Sts., at 4 p.m. to hear the speaker. The program will be under the auspices of the Mobile Branch of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People. The group is expected to submit a protest against lynching to proper federal and Georgia authorities.

Fairburn, Ga. Has Done It

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

34a

It almost escaped our notice. But it's worth mentioning. Fairburn, Georga has passed an anti-lynching, anti-klan ordinance of its very own. The little town is located about 19 or 20 miles south of Atlanta on what is known as the Roosevelt highway. 9-10-46

Amid the righteous indignation over the multiple lynchings near Monroe, the reading public simply overlooked this story. Yet it is the most significant story of the month, we believe. Southerners do not want federal legislation to stop lynching. But they are not meeting the challenge which lynching is imposed upon all of us. Fairburn has acted on her own free will and accord. She has begun to check lynching and mob-violence such as is all to common where the Klan operates, starting at the right place—at home. Tuesday 9-10-44

If other Georgia cities will take action in this direction, then much of the argument supporting the passage of a federal anti-lynching law will become invalid. Let us hope that other communities will follow Fairburn's example.

Records Point To Lynching Upsurge

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

34a

The lynching of Four Negroes in Walton County, Georgia, Thursday is the first in the nation for the year of 1946 and the first in Georgia since 1941, according to the Department of Research Records Tuskegee Institute

On May 6, 1941 Robert Sapp, who was suspected of stealing from his employer was flogged to death with a club and machine belting by three white men in Blakely Early County, Georgia.

ANOTHER GA. INCIDENT ....

Robert Hall was beaten to death by officers of law January 30, 1943 after he had been arrested for the alleged theft of an automobile tire from a truck near Albany Baker County, Georgia. The owner of the truck from which Hall was alleged to have said after the reported to have said after the lynching that he had not missed a tire from the truck and that he had not sworn out a warrant for Hall's arrest. 7-27-44

The latter incident is not considered by all agencies as a lynching as police officers committeed the crime; still there are others who list it as a lynching.

1943 LYNCHINGS

Two lynchings aside from the Hall case were listed for 1943:

Cellos Harrison occused of murdering a white man in a robbery attempt in 1930, was taken from the jail in Marianna, Jackson County Florida, June 16, 1943 by four masked white men and clubbed to death.

Near Camp Ellis, Fulton County, Illinois, Pvt. Holly Willis who was accused of insulting a white woman over the telephone was shot to death by one of a posse of four white farmers as he tried to escape from a farm house November 7, 1943. The white farmers were exonerated.

1944 ATROCITIES

Two lynchings ar elisted for 1944

James I. Scales, young Negro trusty at Tennessee Training and Agricultural School, Pikeville, Tennessee was removed from the county jail by a small group of white men and shot to death on the grounds of the reformatory, November 23, 1943. Scales was accused of slaying the daughter and wife of the superintendent of the school. Sat.

In March of 1944 Rev. Simmons, 65, a minister-farmer was shot by white men beacuse he had hired a lawyer to protect his title to a debt free farm. 7-27-46

The last lynching previous to Thursday's slaying occurred in Madison, County, Florida October 12, 1945 when Jesse James Payne was taken from an unguarded jail and lynched. Payne was accused of attempted rape on a five year old girl.

LYNCHINGS SINCE 1940

Including the atrocities of Thursday there have been 23 Negro lynch victims in the United States since 1940 and one white victim:

In 1940 four Negroes were lynched and one white man was a lynch victim; 1941 four Negroes; 1942, 1944, two Negroes; 1945, one Negro; five Negroes; 1943, three Negroes; 1946, four Negroes.

Hint Georgia Lynchings Rehearsed

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat 8-3-46

34a

By Staff Correspondent

MONROE, Ga.—The Georgia Bureau of Investigation suggested here Monday that the bloody massacre of four colored persons last week was a "rehearsed affair."

Major William E. Spence of the GBI said:

"It looks like it was a rehearsed affair. It looks like it might have been planned since the Negro was first confined to jail."

He referred to Roger Malcom, 27, who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. Malcolm, his wife, and George Dorsey and his wife were the mob's victims.

A coroner's inquest was held a short time after the bodies were discovered and the jury returned a verdict of death at the hands of unknown parties.

Following the bloody affair and the coroner's inquest, Loy Harrison told newsmen he returned to his home Thursday night. He said he went via another route and that about midway he came upon four automobiles parked on the side of the road.

One of the cars blocked his way, he said, so he had to slow down. All the cars were loaded with armed men, he continued, and they looked into the back of his automobile before allowing him to proceed home.

He said he thought this was a different group and that the slayings had been planned, so no matter which route he took to his home, his passengers could not have avoided death at the hands of the mobsters.

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full

Truman Orders Lynchers Found; Voices Horror at Georgia Crime

N. Y. Times — 7-31-46 Ned.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, July 30—President Truman was horrified by the lynching of four Negroes in Georgia last week, Attorney General Clark said today, and had ordered him to use every resource of the Department of Justice to investigate "this and any other crimes of oppression."

34a

The President wished, he added, "to ascertain if any Federal statute can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals."

In an earlier statement today Mr. Clark said that the entire record of his investigation would "be made available to the Governor of Georgia, if necessary, for proper action of Georgia civil authorities."

He declared that the Federal investigation began as soon as news of the lynching was received and was being carried on with the full facilities of the department.

Ned. 7-31-46

Further protests against the lynchings were made by Negro organizations today. About fifty women paraded in front of the White House. They represented the National Association of Colored Women, now meeting here. Some of them carried banners with inspriptions which included: "America, our home, let it be known that lynching must cease," "Speak! Speak! Mr. President!" and "Where Is Democracy?"

New York.

In his second statement of the day the Attorney General said:

"I have talked with the President regarding this case and he has expressed to me his horror at the crime and his sympathy for the families of the victims.

"He has asked that the Department report its progress in the investigation and proceed with all its resources to investigate this and any other crimes of oppression so as to ascertain if any Federal statute can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals.'

Ref. 7-8-46

34a

In his earlier statement the Attorney General reported that his department had had hundreds of telegrams and letters from citizens and from civic, religious, labor and veterans' organizations "deploring and protesting the recent mass murders in Monroe, Ga." Ga.

So many communications had been received, he stated, that it had been impossible to answer all immediately.

Ample Force of Agents

"I am therefore," he continued, "making public, through the press, the progress of the immediate and complete Federal investigation which began, at my direction, last Friday, July 26, as soon as the news of the crime reached Washington.

New York

"The Federal Bureau of Investigation has a sufficient force of agents on hand to provide a thorough probe and the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice is examining the legal and jurisdictional aspects of the case.

"The probe is being carried on in the tradition of the FBI—with dispatch, efficiency and determination. The full facilities of the Department of Justice are behind this investigation."

He voiced hope for an "early solution of these shocking murders" and asserted:

"This crime is an affront to decent Americanism. Only due process of law sustains our claim to orderly self-government. I call upon all our citizens to repudiate mob rule and to assist the authorities to bring these criminals to justice. The lives and liberties of none of us are safe when forces of terror operate outside the laws of God and man."

Telegrams demanding prompt Federal action in the lynchings were sent to President Truman and Mr. Clark by James Carey, secretary of the CIO and chairman of the CIO National Committee to Abolish Discrimination.

The telegram to President Truman asked action to supplement "the efforts of admittedly impotent local officials." Ned. 7-31-46

Handbills to Tell of Rewards

MONROE, Ga., July 30 (U.P.)—State and Federal investigators refused to say today whether any progress was being made in solving the lynching of four Negroes last week.

34a

Maj. W. E. Spence, head of the State Bureau of Investigation, stated that 5,000 handbills were being printed and would be posted all over Walton County. Ga.

The handbills say:

"Rewards totaling $12,500 have been offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons involved in the killing of four Negroes in Walton County on July 25, 1946. All information will be kept confidential. Contact FBI, Walnut-3605 in Atlanta; or GBI, Walnut-5333 in Atlanta."

President Lines Up With Advocates of Anti-Lynching Act

Times-Union 8-2-46 Jacksonville Fla

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1, (AP)—President Truman aligned himself anew today with the advocates of a Federal anti-lynching act.

34a

His views on the proposal were asked at a news conference in connection with the shooting of four negroes by a band of white men at Monroe, Ga., last week.

Mr. Truman recalled that, as a senator, he voted for the anti-lynching bill every time it came up and his tone gave every indication that, as President, he would sign such a measure. But its prospects appear remote in view of plans for Congress to adjourn soon and the Southern filibuster, it inevitably would provoke. Tri - 8-2-46

The Chief Executive had nothing to add to the statement issued Tuesday on the Georgia case. That statement, by Attorney General Clark, said the President had expressed his "horror" and directed the Justice Department to investigate with all its resources. Jacksonville Fla.

Southern Voices Hit Massacre

Daily Worker

Ned. 7-31-46

New York

34a

By Art Shields

MONROE, Ga., July 30.—Negroes here are anxiously awaiting federal action on last week's lynching 10 miles from this town. They believe the 20 or more men who fired 60 shots into war veteran George Dorsey and his wife and another share-cropper couple can be given the death penalty:—

If the federal government is fearless in tracking down and prosecuting the killers regardless of what big-shots may be involved in the crime that followed so closely on the heels of Eugene Talmadge's "white supremacy" primary campaign. Ned. 7-31-46

Business men and farm workers are making this point.

No Negroes can be quoted on this issue in this terror-ridden community. So great is the terror that four Negro women teachers in the county have just failed to respond for duty in the eight-week summer sessions that started just after the lynching.

This leaves four of the 21 rural colored schools in Walton County shorter than usual of their quota of teachers. New York

The federal government's promise to intervene in the lynching case is bringing hope to Georgia trade unionists and churchmen who have been demanding such action. N. Y.

SAVANNAH ACTION

"Our members in 10 Savannah plants have been wiring President Truman to intervene," said Mike Ross, Mine, Mill and Smelter Union representative, whom I talked to by telephone to the coastal town. "We are holding an anti-lynching meeting of several hundred workers tonight to press for maximum action."

Savannah's National Maritime Union has elected a rank and file committee which has been distributing 3,000 leaflets calling for federal action, said James McDonald, port agent. The death penalty for the Walton County lynchers was demanded in the leaflet.

"Shall stormtroopers march through Georgia?" the leaflet began . . . "no decent person can be silent today. Today the lynchers are after the Negroes; tomorrow it will be the Catholics, the Jews, the Protestants."

The pastor of Monroe's largest white church—Rev. James W. Segers of the First Methodist Church—had been emphasizing the need of "national" as well as local action against the lynchers in a talk with this reporter a few minutes before the President's announcement.

His entire congregation, he told me, had gone on record for "local and national" action "in bringing those guilty of this hideous crime to justice."

Ned. 7-31-46 Ga.

UNANIMOUS STAND

And they went on record in a unanimous standing vote.

Rev. Segers, a big muscular man, who came down from the mountains in Georgia some years ago, is outspoken in the present fight.

He believes the mass murders were premeditated, he told me. So do many men in his congregation. He believes also that the case can be cracked, that the guilty mobsters can be made to confess.

And he believes that "politics" is connected with the sharecroppers' murders. New York

Methodist churches in Atlanta, Athens, and other cities have been calling for action. N. Y.

The whole Atlanta Methodist Ministerial Association branded the crime "by a mob of cowardly white men" as an example of "Nazism."

"We have just recently sent millions of our young men to Europe and to Asia to stamp out Nazism. . . . Now in Georgia something closely akin to Nazism in Europe and Asia has arisen, and in every sense it is just as brutal. . . .

"We call on all decent citizens of our state to rise up in denunciation of this foul deed, and to make known to brutal gangsters everywhere that as a civilized people we will not stand for such shameful mob rule in Georgia."

Atlanta's Episcopal churches also denounced the murders as "loathsome and ominous."

Gov. Arnall had earlier declared that "civilization is incensed over this atrocity." Ned. 7-31-46

A few newspaper editorial writers and columnists are beginning to speak out more boldly against the lynching than their papers did at first. Thus Morgan Blake, Atlanta Journal columnist, calls the Walton County crime "as foul as any perpetrated by Hitler gangsters in Europe. If there is not enough decent manhood in Georgia," he added, "to protect the people against such outrages, then we can't honestly call ourselves civilized." N. Y.

And a letter in today's Journal signed by W. F. Barker, says that "the chair would be too light" punishment for this crime.

Truman Asks Georgia Mob Slaying Probe

Times-Union

Ned. 7-31-46

Jacksonville

WASHINGTON, July 30, (AP)—Attorney General Clark announced today that President Truman has expressed "horror" at the lynchings of four negroes near Monroe, Ga., and directed the Justice Department to investigate "with all its resources."

The Federal inquiry—which Clark said is being carried on "in the tradition of the FBI"—has two aims:

1. To see whether the mob members can be arrested and prosecuted under any Federal statute.

2. To assist Georgia authorities in identifying the members of the mob and prosecuting them under

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Georgia's Governor Offers $10,000 for Arrest of Lynchers

Times-Union 7-28-46

Jacksonville, Fla.

MONROE, Ga., July 27, (UP)—Gov. Ellis Arnall today offered rewards up to $10,000 for the "mob of desperadoes" which lynched four negroes near here Thursday, and a state official seeking the killers said he was "up against a stone wall because the people are afraid to talk."

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Major W. E. Spence, head of the Georgia State Patrol, said after a 24-hour investigation that he would "wire every Georgia congressman, or ask Governor Arnall to wire them," asking their support of Federal anti-lynching legislation.

He will make the request, he said, "because under the conditions now existing in Georgia we cannot cope with mob violence." 7-28-46

Spence, annoyed at lack of progress in rounding up the lynchers, revealed that one suspect had been picked up for questioning but later released when the lone witness of the massacre, J. Loy Harrison, could not identify him as one of the slayers.

Jacksonville

Spence said "We though we had the man who perfectly fitted Harrison's description of the mob leader, but Harrison now says the man was 20 pounds heavier." Fla.

state laws. Clark announced that "the entire record of our investigation will be made available to the governor of Georgia, if necessary, for proper action of Georgia civil authorities." Ned. 7-31-46

Clark expressed "hope for an early solution" of what he called "these shocking murders" and called upon "all our citizens to repudiate mob rule."

Referring to the 20-odd white men who shot the two negro farm workers, one a veteran, and their wives, last Thursday, Clark said in a statement: Jacksonville

"This crime is an affront to decent Americanism. Only due process of law sustains our claim to orderly self-government. I call upon all our citizens to repudiate mob rule and to assist the authorities to bring these criminals to justice. The lives and liberties or none of us are safe when forces of terror operate outside the laws of God and man." Florida

Later Clark said in a second statement that he had talked with Mr. Truman about the case and that the President "has expressed to me his horror at the crime and his sympathy for the families of the victims."

$10,000 Is Offered for Lynchers; Georgia Police Inquiry Thwarted

Times 7-28-46
New York N.Y.

By The Asso

MONROE, Ga., July 27 — The state of Georgia threw all of its resources today into the hunt for the members of a white mob which lynched four Negroes on a lonely road near here Thursday. The victims were two farm hands and their wives.

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In Atlanta Gov. Ellis Arnall announced that he was offering rewards totaling more than $10,000 for a solution of the killings.

"I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep up its investigation in Walton County until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers," he said.

"As Governor of Georgia I am offering a reward to the full limit of the law. 7-28-46

"Five hundred dollars will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of each participant in the massacre. These rewards will total more than $10,000. The lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice.

"This mass murder is one of the worst incidents ever to take place in our State. The killing of innocent people is disgraceful morally and legally. I am urging the local law enforcement officials of Walton County and all State agents to leave nothing undone in ferreting out the guilty parties. Civilized [illegible] developments in connection with this heinous crime." 7-28-46 Sun

Maj. William F. Spence, head of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and of the State Police, told reporters today that "we just can't cope" with the situation.

"The best people in town won't talk about this," he declared concerning the lynching. "They have an idea who it is. 7-28-46

"When I get back to town (Atlanta) I'm going to ask the Governor to appeal to every Congressman to help pass Federal legislation against mob violence."

Suspect Is Released

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Major Spence met the reporters soon after the release of a man who, he said, fitted the description of the leader of the armed band which waylaid J. Loy Harrison, a farmer, and the Negroes on the banks of the Appalachee River.

He said that Harrison failed to identify the man, asserting that the leader of the mob was "twenty pounds heavier." Times

The State Police head reported that he had several other leads, but that he was getting no cooperation from local authorities.

Earlier today Major Spence declared: New York N.Y.

"It looks like it was a rehearsed affair. It looks like it might have been planned since the Negro was first confined to jail."

He referred to Roger Malcolm, 27, one of those killed, who had been released on a $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, Barney Hester.

The others slain were Malcolm's wife and George Dorsey and his wife. 7-28-46

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is assisting in the investigation.

Dragon Denies Klan Link

Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, said that his organization "had nothing to do" with the mob action but that he expected Governor Arnall would "try to pin it on us."

"We have no Klan chapter in Monroe," he declared. "I know the Klan had nothing to do with the killings."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through Secretary Walter White in New York, charged in a telegram to Tom Clark, United States Attorney General, that reports of actions of officials in Walton County indicated they had knowledge lynchings were to take place.

In Birmingham, Ala., the Southern Negro Youth Congress wrote to Mr. Clark asking that martial law be declared and a house-to-house search conducted for the slayers. 7-28-46

Representative Marcantonio of New York asked President Truman for "prompt" Federal intervention. Times

The Maryland Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People also asked President Truman to intervene. New York N.Y.

Asks Anti-Lynching Law

CHICAGO, July 27 (AP) — The Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association telegraphed President Truman today as follows:

"We respectfully urge you to direct a message to Congress urging enactment of a Federal anti-lynching law. Should Congress adjourn without such action, we respectfully ask you to summon Congress in special session to restore and preserve law and order in America."

Klan Outlawing Asked

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the National Negro Congress appealed to President Truman and Attorney General Clark yesterday to take immediate action to outlaw the Ku Klux Klan in this country.

The National Negro Congress also sent a letter to Dr. Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations, making allegations concerning the treatment of Negroes in this country, particularly in the Southern States.

In telegrams to Governor Arnall of Georgia and Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton County, Georgia, Arthur Garfield Hays, general counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union, requested yesterday the posting of a $1,000 reward for information leading to convictions on the Georgia lynchings.

He also asked Senator McCarran, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and Representative Summers, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, to call special meetings of their committees to consider and approve for a prompt vote by the Congress legislation making lynching a Federal crime.

Arnall Offers $10,000 In Lynching

Courier Journal

Police Official Says Many Afraid To Help Inquiry

Louisville, Ky.

From Wire Dispatches.

Monroe, Ga., July 27.—Governor Ellis Arnall today offered rewards up to $10,000 for the "mob of desperadoes" which lynched four Negroes near here Thursday and a State official seeking the killers said he was "up against a stone wall because the people are afraid to talk."

34a

Maj. W. E. Spence, head of the Gorgia State Patrol, said after a 24-hour investigation that he would "wire every Georgia congressman, or ask Governor Arnall to wire them," asking their support of federal antilynching legislation.

He will make the request, he said, "because under the condititons now existing in Georgia we cannot cope with mob violence."

"The best people in town won't talk about this," Spence said. "They have an idea who it is."

Lone Suspect Is Freed.

Spence revealed that one suspect, a roadhouse employee, Lester Little, had been picked up for questioning, but later released when the lone witness to the massacre, J. Loy Harrison, could not identify him as one of the slayers. Sun. 7-28-46

Little is tall and rangy and weighs 220 pounds, fitting the description of the mob leader as given by Harrison yesterday. He is a former deputy sheriff of Morgan County.

Spence said, "We've had cases like this before and could do all right with them, but that was before the race issue became so prominent."

Says Case to Be Pressed.

In announcing the rewards for a solution of the mob killing, Arnall said, "I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton County until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law-enforcement officers."

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Meanwhile, there were expressions of public concern over the lynching. Ky.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through Secretary Walter White in New York, charged in a telegram to U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark that reports of actions of officials in Walton County indicated they had knowledge lynchings were to take place. Sun. 7-28-46

The American Civil Liberties Union called the lynching "a direct result of the election of white-supremacy demagogue Eugene Talmadeg as the next Governor of Georgia."

Chased Out by Police

The Courier

This Reporter Didn't Linger Long in Monroe

Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 8-3-46

By ROBERT M. RATCLIFFE, Staff Correspondent

I'll never forget the "quiet" little town of Monroe, Ga. I'm the guy who was chased out of town by the Monroe Chief of Police. It was several years ago. A mob had attempted to snatch a Negro from jail and lynch him. The mob was foiled.

I was on the editorial staff of the Atlanta (Ga.) Daily World then. My editor sent me up to Monroe to get a story. I made one mistake. I carried two other fellows with me—Jimmy Perry and Charles Bronner.

34a

SOON FOUND US

A crowd always attracts attention, and it wasn't long before the Chief of Police knew we were in town.

There had been some trouble there prior to our arrival. The town folk had threatened to jail an out-of-town colored reporter who had "exposed" the town of Monroe. Naturally, Negro reporters were on the "black list."

The police chief and his assistant found us interviewing the principal of the colored school. They questioned us about fifteen minutes. Then we were told not to print anything in "your" paper."

"I've got men in Atlanta who will see it and tell me if you do," he said.

The chief looked at his watch and in a slow drawl, said: "Boys, it's about one hour and ten minutes from here to Atlanta. You ought to be, in your office in just that time."

As the newsmen left the school to enter their car, the chief added: "All I gotta do is whisper you boys are in town . . . and you wouldn't get out."

International:

The Courier

Women Score Ga. Lynchings

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 8-24-46

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The Southern Negro Youth Congress learned through its delegate to the Paris Council meeting of the World Federation of Democratic Youth that the International Democratic Federation of Women with headquarters in Paris has cabled Attorney General Tom C. Clark protesting the Georgia lynchings.

The women's organization's cable to Clarks follows in full:

34a

TEXT OF CABLE

"In name of forty nations, Women's International Democratic Federation expresses indignation at the assassination of four Negroes, two of whom were women, committed in the State of Georgia, July 25. We believe no democratic State can tolerate similar crimes of racial and fascist inspiration. We ask punishment of murderers and measures protecting the Negro population."

The cable was signed by the secretary-general of the women's organization, Marie-Claude Vaillant-Coutourier.

Truman Too Busy To See Group on Georgia Lynching

The Tribune

Washington, D.C. Tues. 7-30-46

34a

By CONRAD CLARK

A delegation of eight persons, representing thousands of loyal American citizens of this country, was told by David Niles, executive secretary to President Truman, that his (the President's) schedule for the day was already made up, and that he was too busy to see the group, Monday morning.

The delegation visited Mr. Niles, following the parade of more than 900 persons from Union Station to the White House, led by Max Yergan of the National Negro Congress, and many other prominent civic and fraternal workers of the country.

Will Try Later

The delegation spent more than 40 minutes with Mr. Niles, whose office is in the State Building, and Mr. Niles agreed that the lynching was deplorable, and assured the body that he would do his best to try and see if it were possible that the President could see the delegation within the next forty-eight hours.

After leaving Mr. Niles, the delegation reported to the gathering that waited on the square opposite the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and another delegation was sent to see Attorney General Clark.

Mr. Clark, being out of town, assistant attorney general Sonnet waited on the delegation, and after listening to its speaker, Dr. Yergan and other members of the delegation, he assured them that as soon as Mr. Clark returned to the Capital, he would relay their message to him.

Mr. Sonnet assured the delegation that all possible steps were being taken by the Attorney General's office, to bring the case to an early and successful end, and that no pains were being spared by the office to ferret out the criminals and bring them to justice. Tues. 7-30-46

Blame Bilbo

On both visits the delegations made it very plain that the cause of the lynchings in Georgia were directly the cause of the recent inflammatory remarks of Senator Theodore Bilbo and governor-elect Talmage, whose running for the governorship of the state of Georgia was based upon his "white supremacy" stand.

The delegates, elected by the group to represent them included both Negroes and whites, the latter group being well represented in the march from Union Station and were, for the visit to Mr. Niles: Dr. Max Yergan, National Negro Congress; Mrs. Therese Robinson, Civil Liberties of the Elks, IBPOE of W; Shelton Hale Bishop, St. Phillips Episcopal Church, New York City.

Mrs. Gertrude Evans, (white) Washington Trade Union, CIO; the Rev. Daniel L. Reed, N. Y. City; Charles A. Collins, Elevators and Operators Union, NYC., Jesse Owens (white) Southern Conference for Human Welfare of Tennessee, and the writer, who representd the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, as well as all other veterans of War II.

Bullet Torn Bodies Of Lynch Victims Horrible Sight

Atlanta Daily World

Sat

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BY GEO. H. ANDREWS

MONROE, GA.— (SNS) — Four lynch victims, their bodies riddled with shot gun slugs rifle bullets, pistol bullets, and apparently machine gun slugs are in Younges Funeral Home here, a mute testimony to race hate at its worst.

34a

The writer counted one hundred and eighty holes in one victims' body and there were more holes where the flesh was torn away. Most of the shots were directed at the chests and heads of the victims Their eyes were shot out parts of their ears were shot away and one victims head was almost severed with slugs. The women received slugs in their breasts and abdomen. One woman had a slug through her head as it emerged.

Viewing the bodies of the victims was a tedious job, one could not help but recall similar incidents in Europe under Hitler. When men and women alike were tied to[illegible] and mass murder commi[illegible] er at his worst co[illegible] done a more mutila[illegible] was done here in Wa[illegible] Georgia USA. 7-27-46

George Dorsey, one [illegible] tims was a veteran of [illegible] E. T. O. and he most [illegible] seen some of Hitlers vi[illegible] probably thought about [illegible] he died.

Monroe is quiet. There is a tenseness, a helplessness a hopelessness and a feeling of insecurity among the people as they go quitely about their jobs wondering who will be the next victims of this mob of murderers. Several expressed themselves that many people will leave the section now that race hate has been aroused in the minds of the white people and that lynching is on the loose.

Monroe is soberly realizing what a political campaign and a few hate speeches can do the minds of otherwise friendly white people Monroe is realizing the fruits of this campaign and saying behind closed doors what it thinks, And wondering what the next four year will be like. 7-27-46

There is a feeling nothing will be done about the murders; that these will go unpunished and thus give the murders a ticket to commit more. Sat

The people are begging for outside help for they feel that local authorities are powerless to do anything about the situation even if they would.

Colored Monroe is sick.

Late Bulletin: Lynch Bullets Cut From Trees

MONROE, Ga.— Latest developments in the two-county search for the murderers of four Negroes near here, July 25, disclosed that bullets imbedded in tree trunks in the Appalachee River bottom, where the lynchings occurred, were recently removed by "unknown" persons.

34a

Four crudely carved croses, symbols of the Ku Klux Klan, were left in place of the bullets, which would have presented the first concrete evidence in the case. Sat. 8-10-46

The FBI has set up a regional office in the Monroe Hotel, and an estimated 35 agents are working to apprehend the mobsters.

More than 50 persons are under surveillance, but arrests are being held off, until airtight cases can be built up. FBI and GBI agents are checking the movements of every person in Walton and Oconee Counties who may have had a part in the crime. Negro domestic employes are being questioned to learn if any saw their employers leave their homes with weapons. Chicago D

Lynch Violence In America Hit In England

Defender

Chicago, Ill.

34a

Sat. 8-31-46

LONDON — With a sarcastic laugh at America's freely offered defense of democracy — everywhere but at home—the London Sunday Pictorial last week carried a double-page spread on the Monroe, Ga. lynchings.

This incident, said the illustrated article, "may well make arguable the competence of the United States to offer tuition in democracy to other nations,"

At the same time, the Pictorial's editorial comment did not pass up the opportunity to strike back at U. S. criticisms of British imperialist practices. Quoting from both the U. S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, the editorial observed that "America has nerve" to attack British actions in India and Palestine.

White G-I Even Ashamed Of His Race, He Says

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Fri. 8-23-46

34a

MIAMI, Fla.—(SNS)—

On Sunday morning at 1:05 o'clock, a local newspaperman was not at all surprised as he listened to Station WGB 'Nightwatchman" relate the news covering several race clashes and made comments on the recent mass lynching of 4 Negroes in Monroe, Ga. when all of a sudden this announcer made the remark that surely all men white or black with any kind of sane reasoning must be making at this time: "I'm ashamed of being a Southerner." Ga.

He spoke further saying that after the way that Negroes performed in the war while fighting and especially in the South Pacific where they underwent strafing after strafing while they fought and unloaded needed cargo and then have to come back home to this. Speaking further, he said that it's a NATIONAL DISGRACE that Monroe, Ga. does not have a single respectable citizen who would name the lynchers of those four persons.

WHITE G. I. WRITES

In the same spirit that the above was uttered. A white soldier from the South, now sationed at Fort Mason, California wrote to the Southern Negro Youth Congress to express his sorrow over the Georgia and Mississippi mob murders of innocent Negroes. The letter received from the soldier T-Sgt Horace P. Lopez, 9206 LSO—LC Hq. Det., Fort Mason, California follows in full:

"Southern Negro Youth Congress
Birmingham, Alabama.

"To Whom It May Concern:

"I have been following the stories in the newspapers of the recent lynchings in the state of Georgia. It is hard to believe that in this so-called enlightened age of civilization, we still have that primitive mob aation.

"Words are inadequate at the moment, or at any time, for that matter, to fully express my sorrow for what has happened to members of your race. I hope you will believe a white Southerner when I tell you that I don't always feel as though I am proud to be white.

"My only hope is that the Negroes never rest or sleep until they have been fully successful in getting legislation to cope with the situations."

Sincerely,
T-Sgt. Horace P. Lopez.

White Methodists Blast Monroe Mob

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

Tuesday 7-30-46

34a

White Methodists ministers of Atlanta at their weekly Association Monday, made public a resolution deploring the lynching of four Walton County, Georgia Negroes, which has besmirched the good name of Georgia," "violated all Christain conscience, and has lynched the very law itself. The Atlanta white methodist leaders represent a combined membership of approximately 65,000 communicants of methodist churches. The resolution condemns nazism in Europe which we stamped out with "the flower of our young manhood" only to find "something akin to this European and Asiatic Nazism, which 'in every sense is just as brutal." 7-30-46

The resolution, signed by Dr. E. G. Mackay, Revs. Nat G. Long, Lester Rumble, B. C. Gamble, Roger Stone, Herbert Sission and H. L. Smith, follows in full:

The Methodist Ministers' Association of Atlanta looks with horror and shame upon the lynching in Walton County, Georgia, of four Negroes by a cowardly mob of white men. To our way of thinking, the hideous murder of four helpless people has besmirched the good name of Georgia, it has outraged all decency of government. It has violated all Christian conscience, and it has lynched the very law itself.

Daily World

We have just recently sent millions of the flower of our young manhood to Europe and to Asia to stamp out Nazism whose habit has been to take the law into its own hand and murder helpless people. Now in Georgia something closely akin to this European and Asiatic Nazism has arisen, and in every sense it is just as brutal.

Tuesday 7-30-46

We commend the officers of the law of Walton County and of the State of Georgia for the efforts they made to apprehend the cowardly mob and bring them to justice. We sympathize with the community where the tragedy occurred. We call on all decent citizens of our state to rise up in denunciation of this foul deed and to make known to brutal gangsters everywhere that as civilized people we will not stand for such shameful mob rule in Georgia.

34a

E. G. MACKAY
NAT. C. LONG
LESTER RUMBLE
B. C. GAMBLE
ROGER STONE
REMBERT SISSON
H. L. SMITH

Atlanta
Georgia

S. C. Man Issues Card of Thanks To Ga. Lynchers

The Black Dispatch,
Oklahoma City, Okla.
Sat. 8-17-46

CHARLESTON, S. C. — (ANP) — A Card of Thanks to those who elected Eugene Talmadge and lynched four Negroes at Monroe, Ga., two weeks ago appeared in the evening paper here last Friday afternoon.

34a

In a space one column wide and three inches space, the Charleston Evening Post carried the following display advertisement Aug. 2:

"We Thank You GEORGIA For Your FIGHT AND VICTORY For Southern Principles. A resident of Charleston, S. C., J. A. Thwett"

Leaders here tend to attribute the message as a tribute to the lynchers as it was published a week after it occurred, whereas the ad might have been published several days before the lynching. General opinion is that it is praise of both happenings.

Vidalia Resolutions Condemn Lynching

Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution State News Service

VIDALIA, Aug. 10—The Men's Bible Class of the local Methodist Church has formulated resolutions concerning the lynching in Walton County and copies have been sent to Gov. Arnall.

34a

The document began "Be it resolved, that we, the members of the Men's Bible Class of Vidalia, Ga., Methodist Church, vigorously condemn and deplore the mass murder of the four Negroes in Walton County by an unknown mob. Their dastardly act brings shame and sorrow to all its decent, law-abiding citizens."

The document commends the efforts of Gov. Arnall "to bring about the apprehension and just punishment of all who had a part in this crime" and passes some comment on racial and religious intolerance. 8-11-46-Sun.

The Rev. Roy Gardner is pastor of the Methodist congregation.

The local Kiwanis Club has also passed similar resolutions, copies of which have been filed with the Governor. 8-11-46-Sun.

Post Says 2 Mobs Awaited Victims

The Daily World Atlanta, Ga.
Sat. 8-10-46

A story in Friday's Washington Post, which quoted an unidentified Georgia official as saying that three members of the mob responsible for lynching two Negro couples in Walton County on July 25 have been identified, broke the long silence of state and county investigators.

34a

The officials of the FBI made no comment, but state and Walton County officers denied this report, indicating that they knew of no member of the mob being identified. This was their first statement to the press in several days.

The Washington Post story said: "Evidence leading to a complete roundup of the mob which participated in the lynching will soon be laid before Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia and Attorney General Tom Clark in Washington.

TWO MOBS

"A state official in Georgia disclosed that not one but two mobs were involved in the lynch attempt.

The second group was guarding another road which the farm hands and their wives, later slain, could have traveled. That group did not participate in the actual killing, the official said. The group, however, was prepared to act if the other mob had not stopped the Negroes.

"Within a few hours after the murders were reported, Attorney General Clark ordered the FBI to make a complete investigation.

FBI SILENT

"Major W. E. Spence, head of the Georgia state police, was reached by telephone in Atlanta just after he had returned from Monroe, Ga., scene of the brutal killings.

'We're still working on the case,' Spence declared, "'and so far as I know no arrests have been made.'

"Another state official, who asked not to be quoted, said that the FBI had put its finger on at least three of the gang and is tying up the threads of other evidence before making arrests of the entire lynch mob."

SLOW PROGRESS

Commenting on the report, Friday, Governor Ellis Arnall said:

"I know nothing of any identifications or arrests in the Walton County cases. I have been in constant check with federal and state investigators working on the lynchings, and they tell me they are making very slow progress and have nothing definite as yet. However, they are hoping for an early break in the case."

NO EARLY BREAK

State and federal officers stated Friday that they saw no early break in the case, indicating that although they have arrived at definite suspicions as to the killer of the four Negroes, they lacked evidence to make an arrest.

John Trost, special agent in charge of the Atlanta FBI office, who has been in personal charge of the investigation, stated that he had "no comment."

Mayor W. E. Spence, head of the GBI, who has been directing the state agents in the investigation, asserted that he had no knowledge of any arrest.

Sheriff E. S. Gordon, of Walton County, said he had heard nothing of new developments in the case and said that, so far as he knows no arrests havebeen made.

Entire Nation Blasts Georgia Massacre; Demand Justice For Slayers of Four As Families of Slain Fear to Attend Rites

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.
Sat. 8-10-46

By The Associated Negro Press

With the entire nation aroused over the brutal lynchings of two Negro couples in Monroe, Ga., last week the FBI, national organizations and individuals immediately girded for action to track down the killers.

34a

In the town, so terrorized that immediate families of the four were afraid to attend funeral services for the victims Sunday, no results from the probe had been gained Monday. However, widespread are of the public and the $10,000 reward offered by Gov. Ellis Arnall are expected to uncover information leading to arrests.

It has been indicated by reactions, both in this country and abroad, that thinking Americans will accept nothing less than apprehension and fitting punishment for the perpetrators of this latest barbarism practiced on a minority group. The people's own words, spontaneous expressions which followed news of the quadruple massacre, attest to this:

NEW YORK — (ANP) — The National Negro congress announced that representatives of the organization from New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana would march to the White House in Washington on Monday in protest of the lynchings.

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Directors of the Negro Newspapers' Publishers' association, in a special session, urged President Truman to press enactment of a federal anti-lynching bill. In a wire to Washington, the association stated:

"We fear that unless the influence of your office is enlisted to insure equal protection under the constitution for all citizens there will continue a mounting wave of violence and bloodshed equaling the worst demonstrations of Hitler's racism."

A. A. Liveright, executive director, speaking for the American Council on Race relations, warned that groups and individuals using the cloak of civil liberties to whip up anti-minority attitudes must be curbed.

"The killing of two Negro servicemen in Freeport, L. I., the firing of Negroes homes in Chicago, and the burning and bombing of Japanese-American homes on the west coast are evidence of the national character of the existing danger," he said.

In a letter sent to the nations' hundreds of racial unity groups, the council urged mass protests of the July 25th lynching in Monroe, Georgia.

NEW YORK — (ANP) — The Rev. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., preaching to the Sunday morning congregation of Abyssinian Baptist church here, advised against meeting violence with violence. He said:

"We Negroes cannot get even with the barbaric lynch murderers of Georgia. Despite the horrors which are now being practiced upon American citizens by American nazis, we cannot make any progress by striking back.

"We must, however, militantly demand that the established agencies of law and order, beginning with the President of the United States, the attorney general of the United States, and the governor of Georgia, immediately apprehend these criminals and execute swift justice."

MONROE, Ga. — (ANP) — A congregation at the First Methodist church here, unanimously adopted a resolution calling on local and Walton county authorities to cooperate with state officials in searching for members of the armed band which executed the lynching of four here last Thursday.

Condemning the killings as an "outrage against humanity," Maj. William E. Spence, head of the Georgia state police, commented that the good people" in Walton county "won't even talk about the mass murder" although some of them "know who members of the gang were."

WASHINGTON, — (ANP) — Vito Marcantonio, New York congressman, wired President Truman, urging prompt United States government intervention.

"Unless immediate federal action is taken, there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbos and Talmadge," the message read.

WASHINGTON, — (ANP) — Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., speaking on the floor of the house of representatives Friday, cited the mass murder, the blinding of a Negro veteran by two policemen in Aiken, S. C., and the wholesale destruction of Negro property by state police in Columbia, Tenn., last January, as indications of a rapid breakdown of justice in the United States.

Rep. Powell asked immediate investigation and institution of charges against the "Georgia murderers" and the "South Carolina 'Hitlers.'"

BOSTON, Mass. — (ANP) — The Wellesley School of Community affairs, being held here at Wellesley college, sent duplicate protest telegrams to President Truman, Atty. Gen. Tom Clark, Gov. Ellis Arnall, Sen. Walter F. George, Sen. Eugene C. Cox, and Rep. Helen Mankin.

The representatives from 14 states declared their abhorrence for the recent "violation of the fundamental democratic rights for education of my people in Georgia, and believe me, it will be plenty."

full

Georgia Lynching Probe Sabotaged

34a

By Art Shields

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Mon 8-9-46

MONROE, Ga., Aug. 11.—The investigation of the Walton County mass lynching is gravely weakened by President Truman's failure to issue a public promise of protection to witnesses who fear the vengeance of the 20 killers. This failure belies the President's promise that everything possible is being done to solve the quadruple lynching. The lips of many identifying witnesses are sealed until public assurance of protection against the landowning mobsters and their murderous stooges is given. Negroes and poor whites—sharecroppers and household servants of Loy Harrison, of the Hester family clan, and of other landlords can tell much if the Federal government will guarantee their safety.

These federal safety guarantees will have to be given over the head of Eugene Talmadge, the Ku Klux Klan's candidate and a friend of the Hester family, who moves into the Georgia State House next January.

A few sharecroppers, whose testimony is important, have left Walton County already. Among them are Mrs. Dora Malcolm, aged grandmother of Roger Malcolm, and tenant of Barney Hester. She departed from her home state of Georgia last week with her 19-year-old granddaughter Roger's sister, Mrs. Mae Pryor.

They will live at 1937 Maple Ave., Chicago. Mrs. Malcolm has been terribly shaken by the death of her favorite grandson, who used to help support her. She needs help now. The landlords got everything she made all her life.

Her granddaughter, Mrs. Pryor, the wife of a soldier overseas works in a Chicago drycleaning plant.

PROBE SABOTAGED

34a

The vast majority of the witnesses needed to send the killers to the electric chair, are still in Walton County, however. The murder investigation is also sabotaged by the failure of state and fedearl governments to post reward notices in Walton County.

More than $40,000 has been offered for the conviction of the butchers of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm, and Mr. and Mrs. George Dorsey

But the Walton County people, who can identify the killers and claim the reward, are not being told about it by the authorities.

I have not seen a single reward notice in two weeks as I drove up and down the country's few concrete highways and the many rutted back roads of red clay that wind between the cotton fields, the weedy wasteland and the scrubby second growth woods.

Not one, and the Negro sharecroppers and white mill workers say they have seen none, either.

Meanwhile, much routine evidence that would be pounced on by police in any ordinary murder case appears to be still unchecked.

INQUEST BUNGLED

Thus, only a few bullets of the scores fired in the execution volleys by 20 or more slayers have been locked up for checking with future prisoners' guns.

Mon 8-9-46

The bodies of the bullet-riddled victims of the lynching have not yet been disinterred to complete the inquest that was shamefully bungled by Coroner Tom Brown, of Walton County, who is a rural land owner himself.

Not long after the lynching, Coroner Brown was boastfully showing newspapermen one of the murder slugs, which he said he had picked out of one of the dead Negroes.

He called the lynch victim a "N——r." He was keeping the bullet as a "souvenir," he declared.

Monroe police are not hiding their indifference toward a solution of the crime. Homer Chase, district organizer of the Communist Party, heard a Monroe cop replying "No, thank God," in a loud voice when someone asked him today if he was working on the case.

But J. Edgar Hoover, FBI chief, is said to have sent more than 30 G-Men into the lynch zone. Why don't they make arrests?

Bullet Torn Bodies Of Lynch Victims Horrible Sight

World Memphis Tenn. Tuesday 7-30-46

BY GEO. H. ANDREWS

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Viewing the bodies of the victims was a tedious job, one could not help but recall similar incidents in Europe under Hitler. When men and women alike were tied together and mass murder committed. Hitler at his worst could not have done a more mutilating job than was done here in Walton County Georgia USA.

7-30-46

George Dorsey, one of the victims was a veteran of five years in E. T. O. and he most likely had seen some of Hitlers victims and probably thought about this before he died.

Monroe is quiet. There is a tenseness, a helplessness a hopelessness and a feeling of insecurity among the people as they go quitely about their jobs wondering who will be the next victims of this mob of murderers. Several expressed themselves that many people will leave the section now that race hate has been aroused in the minds of the white people and that lynching is on the loose.

Monroe is soberly realizing what a political campaign and a few hate speeches can do the minds of otherwise friendly white people. Monroe is realizing the fruits of this campaign and saying behind closed doors what it thinks, And wondering what the next four years will be like.

There is a feeling nothing will be done about the murders; that these will go unpunished and thus give the murders a ticket to commit more.

The people are begging for outside help for they feel that local authorities are powerless to do anything about the situation even if they would.

Colored Monroe is sick.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 22, 1946

No Leads Found In Mass Killing

34a

Authorities investigating the mass murder of four Negro farmhands in Walton County a month ago are "hoping for a break" but at present they have turned up no leads or new evidence, Governor Arnall told reporters Thursday.

Major W. E. Spence, director of the State Department of Public Safety, conferred briefly with the Chief Executive during the morning and expressed confidence the case eventually will be solved.

Governor Arnall pointed out that rewards for the arrest and conviction of the armed band who shot to death two Negro men and their wives on the banks of the Appalachee River, border between Walton and Oconee Counties, now exceeds $50,000

Says Northerners Can't Get Even For Ga. Lynching

The World Memphis Tenn. Tues. 8-6-46

34a

NEW YORK — (NNPA) — Colored people in the North cannot "get even with the barbaric lynch murderers of Georgia" by striking back, the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell Jr. said Sunday in the Abyssianian Baptist Church, 132 West 138th Street.

"We must militantly demand," he said, "that the established agencies of law and order beginning with the president, the attorney general of the United States and the Governor of Georgia immediately apprehend these criminals and execute swift justice.

"What happened in Georgia is just another link in the chains of slavery which American Fascists are wrapping around the hearts of Negro people. Columbia, Tennessee; Freeport, Long Island; Monroe, Georgia, and Aiken, South Carolina — when will these high crimes be stopped? The problem is now Mr. Truman's and Mr. Tom Clark's."

The united voice of the church, in pulpits in the North and South, deplores the recent lynchings in Georgia, the Rev. Franklin P. Cole declared Sunday in the Church-in-the-Gardens, Forest Hills, Queens.

INNOCENT LYNCH VICTIM—Mrs. Mae M. Dorsey was one of the four innocent victims who were murdered in typical Gestapo fashion, Thursday afternoon by a white mob, 10 miles from Monroe, Georgia Mrs. Dorsey and her husband, George Dorsey, a veteran of World War II, accompanied their sister-in law, Mrs. Dorothy Malcolm to Monroe to get her husband Roger Malcolm, who was held on charges of stabbing a white farmer on July 14

Worker Chicago Ill. Tuesday 7-30-46

34a

Members Of Georgia Lynch Mob Known, Arrests Are Expected

News - Birmingham Ala. Fri. 8-9-46

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9—(AP)—The Washington Post said today it had learned that the FBI has identified some of the members of the mob which lynched four Negroes at Monroe, Ga.

34a

The Post story said:

"Evidence leading to a complete round-up of the mob which participated in the lynching will soon be laid before Gov. Ellis Arnall, of Georgia, and Atty. Gen. Tom Clark in Washington.

"A state official in Georgia disclosed that not one but two mobs were involved in the lynch attempt.

"The second group was guarding another road which the farm hands and their wives, later slain, could have traveled. That group did not participate in the actual killing, the official said. The group, however, was prepared to act if the other mob had not stopped the Negroes.

"Within a few hours after the murders were reported, Atty. Gen. Clark ordered the FBI to make a complete investigation.

"Washington FBI officials and the head of the Atlanta office of the FBI, John R. Trost, declined last night to comment.

"Maj. W. E. Spence, head of the Georgia state police, was reached by telephone in Atlanta just after he had returned from Monroe, Ga., scene of the brutal killings.

"'We're still working on the case,'" Spence declared, "'and so far as I know no arrests have been made.'

"Another state official, who asked not to be quoted, said that the FBI had put its finger on at least three of the gang and is tying up the threads of other evidence before making arrests of the entire lynch mob."

Post Says 2 Mobs Awaited Victims

World, Memphis Tenn.

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TWO MOBS

Tuesday

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SLOW PROGRESS

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PHILADELPHIA STORES CLOSE IN PROTEST

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

PHILADELPHIA—(ANP)—About 40 per cent of the retail stores in the Negro business district here closed for one hour Friday in protest against the lynching of four Negroes at Monroe, Ga.

34a

One tavern was draped in black and during the hour the proprietor, six employes and 30 customers wearing arm bands of mourning, paraded the sidewalk.

No Arrests In Atrocity After Three Weeks

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga

Sun. 8-11-46

Sheriff Admits He Is Doing Nothing On Case

MONROE, Ga.— (ANP) — Although three weeks have elapsed since a mob of 20 whites lined up two men and their wives in a thicket near here and shot them down in a hail of fire from rifles, shotguns and revolvers, no arrests have been made and only one suspect has been viewed by the sole witness of the massacre. This suspect was released for lack of identification.

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Indifference and inaction are held to be contributing to the failure of state and federal authorities to solve the south's worst lynching in 20 years. A wall of silence has been erected around the murderers that even the present rewards totaling $42,000 cannot crack. "Nobody knows anything," one authority commented.

The sheriff of Walton county admitted he is doing nothing. Even the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, arriving on the scene a day late and finding all possible evidence removed by unknown parties, has made little progress. Nor has the FBI opened up a lead.

TALMADGE INDIFFERENT

While he admits progress is "slow," Governor Ellis Arnall is still said to be hopeful of arrests, but Gov-elect Gene Talmadge remains indifferent. Talmdage opened up long enough to remark "the rest of the country can't seem to understand these things down here."

Meanwhile Monroe and Walton county citizens are becoming more indignant over the publicity and so-called 'distorted' news accounts of the crime than they are with the failure of authorities to catch the guilty parties. At first, citizens were stunned by the news of the crime. Several leaders pointed out that the city and county were "law-abiding," that no racial trouble had been in their midst since a Negro was convicted and electrocuted 40 years ago for an assault on a white woman.

Indication that Monroe and Walton County would like to forget the whole thing and that they are indignant against the whole country for protests raised and clamors for redress is shown by the statement of Ernest Camp, editor of the Walton Tribune. Walton say "Why, it happened right near the county line. Another 50 feet and it would have been over in Oconee county," and pointed to recent copies of magazines and eastern newspapers carrying accounts of the lynchings, which he termed as "just a pack of lies."

Another citizen, J. L. McGarity, local automobile distributor, declared, "You'll find a lot of durned fools anywhere. It wouldn't have been so bad, some folks say, if they'd just killed the one who did the stabbing, but there was no justification for killing the other three."

At the same time, Sheriff E. S. Gordon, who has held his office since 1921, placidly remarked that he wasn't doing anything about the massacre.

"I don't have the right facilities," he declared in defense of his stand. "I called in the FBI and the Georgia State patrol to take over, but they haven't asked for my help.

The lone suspecting brought in for questioning and confronted by Loy Harrison, employer of the two Negro men killed, for identification, was Lester Little, white bouncer at the County Line Beer garden. At first it was thought he answered the description given by Harrison of one of the mob, but Harrison said he was not the man.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
July 29, 1946

Mystery Clearing —Spence

The report of an arrest in connection with police inquiry into the mass killing of four Negroes near Monroe last Thursday highlighted yesterday's development in the case.

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"The mystery is being unraveled."

With those words, Maj. William Spence, head of the Georgia State Patrol, under whose jurisdiction falls the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, opened a crack in the investigatory door.

It was also reported and neither officially confirmed nor denied, that the man in custody told authorities the majority of the men who comprised the mob were from "Walton and adjoining counties."

"IMPORTED" LEADERS

As for the leaders of the mob, it was reported they were not "men from Walton or adjoining counties." Thus, it was conjectured, authorities had another line to probe—the possibility of men having been "imported" to lead the mob.

Meanwhile, from the pulpits of Georgia came words of strong denunciation against the crime in which the Negroes lost their lives under a hail of fire from rifles, shotguns and pistols, at the hands of a mob.

Declining either to confirm or to deny the arrest, Maj. Spence said:

"All I can say now is the mystery is being unraveled, and we intend to see this investigation through until the guilty persons are brought to justice."

Beyond that comment, Maj. Spence and agents working with him in the investigation—including men of the Federal Bureau of Investigation—remained silent.

NOT MOB MEMBER

However, reports persisted—and these were officially neither confirmed nor denied—that a man had been taken into custody over the week end. This individual, whose name was not disclosed, was not a member of the mob, according to reports, but was said to know many members of the band which waylaid the Negroes at a bridge 10 miles east of Monroe.

It was said further the man had not been reluctant to talk, and that, during questioning by authorities, gave them much valuable information.

With official details of the arrest lacking, it was not learned where the man had been taken into custody or where he was being lodged by authorities.

Maj. Spence, working with one of his top agents, Bob McCutcheon, has spent many hours in Monroe, doggedly pushing every clue that might lead to identity of the slayers.

Spence said:

"It is going to take some time to break this case. It is going to take a lot of hard digging and careful investigating. The public should not expect results in the matter of hours. It will take time.

"Even if public interest lessens in this case, we shall proceed. As time goes on, our task may become more difficult. But we will not shirk it. We will keep on and do our best to bring to justice those who did this deed."

John Trost, agent-in-charge of the Atlanta office of the FBI, was on the case with Spence. Trost, like the others, however, kept tight-lipped on the progress of the investigation.

As funeral services were held at Monroe for the victims, it was also learned that relatives of two of the four victims failed to appear at the final rites. Friends explained they believed the family members were "too scared" to attend.

D. W. Young, Negro undertaker, said the services were delayed for almost two hours while he sought relatives of the victims, George Dorsey and his wife. The other victims were Roger Malcolm and his wife.

An uncle of Dorsey, Robert Elder, was the only one who appeared at the rural church to represent the family. More than 100 other Negroes attended. The few white persons at the funeral were newsmen.

Young said he did not believe the relatives suffered foul play, but expressed the thought their absence was "certainly a mystery." He added the relatives had been interested in providing a "good funeral" for the victims.

The relatives were said to have left the farm of J. Loy Harrison, only witness to the killings, by automobile.

The funeral of Dorsey and his wife was held, but arrangements were not complete for rites for Malcolm, who was released from jail under $600 bond only to die at the hands of the mob less than an hour later.

Columbus, Ga., Enquirer-Su
Aug. 5, 1946

Negro Group Petitions Truman On Mob Hunt

ATLANTA, Aug. 4—(AP)—The Citizens Defense Committee of Georgia, a Negro organization, made public today a petition sent President Truman asking that immediate steps be taken to apprehend and punish the lunchers of four Negroes at Monroe, Ga., July 18.

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The petition, the announcement by Executive Secretary Warren R. Cochrane said, also was sent to Gov. Ellis Arnall and representatives of Christian and religious organizations throughout Georgia.

Cochrane said the petition bore the signatures of more than 3,000 Negroes representing organizations having more than a half million members in the state.

Protests Lynchings

Black Dispatch

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — (ANP) —A committee of five named at a mass meeting held by the local NAACP chapter here last Monday drafted letters and resolutions protesting the recent Georgia lynchings and a burning cross incident in the city. Sat. 34a Sat.

Meeting at the Messiah Baptist church, the chapter appointed the Rev. William W. Sullivan, of Second Baptist church; the Rev. R. B. Hurt, of Waters Memorial AME Zion church; the Rev. Clyde E. Davys, of the CME church; Miss Clara Stern, executive secretary of the Jewis Community center and Frank Kennell, to act as a steering committee which will study the effects of the resolution and to send copies of the statements it drafts to Connecticut members of congress, the U. S. Attorney for Connecticut, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, all Brigdeport clergymen and Mayor Jasper McLevy.

7421

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
July 28, 1946

GBI Finds Silence In Lynching

MONROE, Ga., July 27 (AP)—The head of the Georgia state police told newsmen today "we just can't cope" with the local situation in the investigation of the massacre of four Negroes near here Thursday.

"The best people in town won't talk about this," the police head, Maj. William E. Spence said. "They have an idea who it is.

"When I get back to town (Atlanta) I'm going to ask the Governor to appeal to every Congressman to help pass federal legislation against mob violence."

Major Spence met newsmen shortly after the release of a man who he said fitted the description of the leader of the armed band which waylaid J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer, and the Negroes on the banks of the Appalachee River.

Spence said Harrison failed to identify the man and said the leader of the mob was "20 pounds heavier."

The state police leader said he had several other leads, but added that he was getting no cooperation from local authorities.

"We haven't had the racial issue up before until recently," Spence said. "We've been out on things like this before, but never anything like this."

In Atlanta, Gov. Ellis Arnall announced he was offering rewards totaling more than $10,000 for a solution of the mob killing of two Negro farm hands and their wives.

Grimly, he said "I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton County until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers."

The Governor, whose term expires next Jan. 4, almost injected the recent gubernatorial campaign in which the chief issue was "white supremacy" into the special press conference.

He started to comment that the crime followed on the heels of the nomination of Eugene Talmadge, but quickly changed the subject.

The only comment to come from Talmadge was that "such incidents are to be regretted." Talmadge is vacationing in Cheyenne, Wyo.

Meanwhile, preparations for the [illegible]

George Dorsey and his wife, victims of the lynching, were attracting scores of visitors to the funeral parlor in which their bodies lie.

Shortly after the shooting was made public yesterday, agents of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation swarmed into the county. In the course of routine work, bullets were taken from the bodies for checking by balistic experts.

Meanwhile, there were expressions of public concern over the lynching.

Grand Dragon Samuel Green of the Ku Klux Klan said his organization "had nothing to do" with the mob action, but that he expected Arnall "will try to pin it on us."

Green also declared "we have no klan chapter in Monroe. I know the klan had nothing to do with the killings."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through Secretary Walter White in New York, charged in a telegram to Atty. Gen. Tom Clark that reports of actions of officials in Walton County indicated they had knowledge lynchings were to take place.

To this charge, Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton County replied: "You just tell 'em its a damn lie, I don't care who said it."

Said Spence: "It looks like it was a rehearsed affair. It looks like it might have been planned since the Negro was first confined to jail.'"

The GBI head referred to Roger Malcolm, 27, who had been released on a $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, Barney Hester.

The other victims of the mob were Malcolm's wife, George Dorsey and his wife.

Only witness to the multiple slaying was Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer in whose car the Negroes were riding.

LYNCHING HIT IN LONDON

The Pictorial

Citing Georgia Case, Paper Gibes at U. S. Criticism of Others

[illegible]

LONDON, Aug. 18 (UP)—The London Sunday Pictorial today carried a double-page spread on the recent lynchings at Monroe, Ga., and observed editorially that "America has nerve" to attack British action in India and Palestine.

The illustrated article, which included quotations from the United States Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, said the Georgia incident "may well make [illegible] the competence of the United States to offer tuition in democracy to other nations."

"Abraham Lincoln surely would have disowned President Truman's request that 100,000 Jews be admitted to Palestine," the newspaper said.

Trenton, Ga., Times
Aug. 15, 1946

Governor Urges Renewed Effort To Punish Mob

Declaring that civilized people everywhere are incensed over the Walton slaying of two Negroes and their wives by a band of armed men in Walton County, Governor Ellis Arnall has requested State and local officals to redouble their efforts to identify and punish the members of the mob. The Governor asserted:

"I am asking the State and local officials to redouble their efforts to ferret out the members of the mob who lynched the four Negroes in Walton County.

"The Federal Government is rendering full cooperation in the search. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has agents at work on the case.

"Rewards now total $12,500.00 for informaton leading to the apprehension and conviction of the gang that committed the murder and massacre.

"Civilization is incensed over this atrocity. The guilty parties must be brought to justice."

Since the Governor issued the above statement, the rewards have increased to above thirty thousand dollars.

Zebulon, Ga., Journal
Aug. 8, 1946

GOVERNOR URGES RENEWED EFFORT TO PUNISH MOB

Declaring that civilized people everywhere are incensed over the wanton slaying of two Negroes and their wives by a band of armed men in Walton County, Governor Ellis Arnall has requested State and local officials to redouble their efforts to identify and punish the members of the mob. The Governor asserted:

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"The Federal Government is rendering full cooperation in the search. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has agents at work on the case.

"Rewards now total $12,500.00 for information leading to the apprehenson and conviction of the gang that commited the mass murders and massacre.

"Civilization is incensed over this atrocity. The guilty parties must be brought to justice."

Since the Governor issued the above statement, the rewards have increaser to above thirty thousand dollars.

Americus, Ga., Recorder
Aug. 1, 1946

14 Lynchings During Talmadge's Tenure In Office, Claimed

ATLANTA, Aug. 1—(AP)—The Southern Regional Council, through its executive director, Guy B. Johnson, took issue today with a statement by Eugene Talmadge that during his three terms as governor "there was not a lynchng in the State."

A statement from Johnson said:

"It is encouraging to hear Mr. Talmadge say that he considers mob violence regrettable wherever it occurs, and that he believes such atrocies will be at a minimum while he is governor. It is unfortunate, however, that Mr. Talmadge did not check on the records before stating that during his three terms as governor of Georgia there was not a lynching in the State. The records show five lynchings during his first term, eight during his second term and one during his third term—making a total of fourteen."

Until the lynchings in Walton county, Johnson said, Georgia had made "considerable progress" toward elimination of the crime.

"From 1882 through 1930," he said, "Georgia had 508 lynchings, or an average of 10.3 per year. From 1931 through 1945 Georgia had 19 lynchings, or an average of 1.3 per year. In six of the past 15 years, there were no lynchings at all in Georgia."

The council announced an increase from $500 to $1,000 the reward it offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the men involved in the lynching of four negroes in Walton county.

Monroe, Ga., News
Aug. 14, 1946

Gov. Arnall Denys Break In Probe Of Recent Lynching

Washington Rumors Say FBI Has Learned Identity Of Three Of Lynch Mob.

Despite persistent rumors of an immediate "break" and impending arrests for murder of four Negroes near the Oconee County line several weeks ago, there is no indication here that such is the case and Governor Ellis Arnall said this past week that Federal and State investigators "are making slow progress and have nothing definite as yet."

The Washington, (D. C.) Post carried a story last week quoting a Georgia official, who asked to remain anonymous, as saying the FBI put its finger on at least three members of the gang and was tying up threads of other evidence before making arrests of the entire lynch mob.

"I know nothing of any identifications or arrests in the Walton County cases," Governor Arnall said. "I have been in constant check with Federal and State investigators working on the lynchings, and they tell me they are making very slow progress and have nothing definite as yet. However, they are hoping for an early break in the case."

President Truman told his news conference in Washington last Thursday the Federal investigations into the recent lynchings of four Negroes in Georgia were going forward with all the energy possible. The President made this comment when he was asked about the progress of the inquiry he asked Atty. General Clark to make.

Waycross, Ga., Journal-Herald
July 25, 1946

Grace Church

Protests Recent Lynchings in Ga.

The Reverend Charles Wyatt-Brown, Rector of Grace Episcopal Church, Waycross, has wired Hon. Ellis Arnall, Governor of Georgia the following telegram:

"The Rector, Wardens, and Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church, Waycross, on behalf of the congregation beg to express their appreciation of your expressions of righteous indignation at the shameful atrocities committed in our beloved State in the name of hatred, bigotry, and prejudice. Our prayers are that in the days to come the unruly wills and affections of all such wicked men may be constrained by the love of Christ, Son of God, Prince of Peace, and Redeemer of the world.

Sincerely,
Charles Wyatt-Brown,
Rector"

Urges Special Session For Anti-Lynching Legislation

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

8-7-46

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Gathered at the foot of the Lincoln Memorial a throng of 15,000 persons, many of them wearing black armbands, mourned recent victims of lynching and called for militant Federal action against their murderers. The crowd overflowed to the reflection pool in the background and remained until long after dark to cheer speaker after speaker who denounced 'mob rule" in the South.

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Several speakers demanded that President Truman call a special session of Congress to enact anti-lynching legislation, and Senator T. G. Bilbo, Democrat, of Mississippi, Gene Talmadge, Democratic Gubernatorial nominee in Georgia who won their party nominations on the campaign of race hate, were indicted as the inciters of the lynching. A funeral procession preceded the Memorial services for the lynching victims.

The proecession led by three colored amputee veterans, whose wheel chairs were draped in mourning wreaths started at Ninth Street and Constitution Avenue and ended at the Lincoln Memorial. The soldier amputees, who came from Walter Reed Hospital, were wheeled by uniformed buddies the entire length of the pre-memorial service parade. Throughout the march to the Lincoln Memorial spectators who lined the sidewalks ran to have bands pinned o ntheir arms as they fell in behind Black Banners demanding that the lynchers in Georgia be brought to justice.

About one-third of the orderly crowd was white. The procession was about one half mile long. Scores of policemen in squad cars, on motorcycles and on foot paralleled the route of march down Constitution Avenue to the Memorial and remained on the scene until the service ended shortly before 10 p. m., sponsored by the Washington Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, speakers from the American Veterans Committee, American Federation of Labor, CIO, National Negro Congress United Negro, Allied Veterans and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People were on the program.

Monroe Churches Denounce Brutal Killing Of Negroes

Monroe, Ga., News
July 31, 1946

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The mob murder of four helpless Walton County Negroes is being vigorously condemned by the churches of Georgia and Walton County, as the followers of Christ remember the words of their Master:

"In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

Sunday, the First Baptist Church, the First Christian Church and the First Methodist Church, of Monroe, adopted the following resolution with regard to the murders.

"Be it known that the First Baptist Church, the First Methodist Church and the First Christian Church of Monroe, go on record as condemning the outrage against humanity which took place in Walton County, Georgia, Thursday, July 25, 1946, and these churches ask that local and county officials cooperate with State and National authorities in bringing those guilty of this hideous crime to justice, and we pledge our whole-hearted cooperation."

In Valdosta, the First Methodist Church and the adult division of its Sunday School adopted resolutions deploring the massacre, and calling upon Governor Ellis Arnall to speed the apprehension of those responsible for the crime. Both resolutions were approved unanimously.

"If the minority race cannot look to the Christian church as its friend and protector, then the church is unworthy to bear the name Christian," said the Rev. Leonard Cochran, pastor of the Valdosta church. Judge A. J. Little, teacher of a men's Bible class at the church, said, "This crime was the most cowardly, un-Christian and uncivilized act committed in Georgia in many years."

In Atlanta, the Rev. J. Milton Richardson, of St. Luke's Episçopal Church; Dr. Lester Rumble, of St. Mark Methodist Church, and the Rev. C. H. Sewell, of Wesley Memorial Church, thundered denunciations of the lynching, while similar expressions came from chruches through out the state.

"Against the background of Jesus' teachings on the sacredness of human personality and the worth of human life, we see how utterly and completely un-Christian is the crime at Monroe that has shocked the consciousness of the people of Georgia," said Mr. Richardson.

Dr. Rumble commented: "The terrible crime at Monroe is a guilt of us all. All of us contributed to the murder of those four poor people if we have had prejudice in our hearts. Bringing the murderers to justice is the direct responsibility of each and every person in Georgia."

Said Mr. Sewell: "It is a paradoxical phenomenon of a so-called civilized society that we should spread the blood of our sons, brothers and fathers across the face of the world in an effort to stamp out a terrorism that exists right here in our own state."

The Athens Methodist Church, at the suggestion of its pastor, the Rev. H. C. Holland, adopted a statement which read: "We condemn this act of lawlessness as being undemocratic and out of keeping with the provisions of the Constittuion of the United States, and dangerous to our peace and safety; as being a stigma on the good name of the State of Georgia, nearly all of whose citizens are law-abiding people, and as being un-Christian, for the Christian religion teaches that we are to be subject to the powers that be, and that we are to respect the personalties of all people.

"We urge that everything possible be done to bring to justice the perpetrators of this terrible crime."

Talmadge Promises Fewer Lynchings; Says He Will Cut Atrocities to Minimum

MONROE, Ga., July 29 (AP)—Eugene Talmadge, who will take over as Georgia's Governor in January, said today the mass lynching of four Negroes here last week was "regrettable" and that during his administration "such atrocities will be at a minimum."

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Mr. Talmadge, back in the State after a Western vacation following his selection as Democratic nominee for Governor in the July 17 primary, said, in a formal statement, he was very sorry that the lynchings occurred in the administration of Governor Arnall.

"I sympathize with him and know that it did cause him chagrin and embarrassment," Mr. Talmadge said of Governor Arnall who defeated him four years ago and backed another candidate against him in this year's primary. Democratic nomination in Georgia is equivalent to election.

Mr. Talmadge added that there was a "great deal of mob violence in Detroit, Chicago and other sections of the country during the past few years" and commented:

"The people of Georgia always sympathized with other sections when such occurrences happened. * * * The better-thinking people of Georgia knew that it was not a reflection on the State * * * but only on the individuals who committed the crime."

7-31-46

Mr. Arnall has offered a $10,000 reward on behalf of the State for apprehension of the group of white men who ruthlessly shot to death Roger Malcom and his wife, and George Dorsey and his wife, as an apparent sequel to Malcom's being arrested on July 14 on a charge of stabbing his white employer.

In Washington, Charles G. Ross, White House press secretary, told a news conference President Truman has taken no direct hand in the lynching investigation.

A group of Negroes protesting the slaying was received by David K. Niles, Presidential administrative assistant, after they had paraded to focus attention on the incident. They were headed by Prof. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress.

A short time before, Edgar G. Brown, who said he headed the National Negro Council, left the White House and said he had refused to see Mr. Niles "or any other underling." Mr. Brown explained that he wanted the President to send troops into Georgia. Subsequently Mr Ross said he had no knowledge of any request from Mr. Brown for an appointment.

There was no announcement of developments in the search for the slayers being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. Major William E. Spence, head of the GBI, said a solution would take long and careful police work and commented:

"The mystery is being unraveled."

Times

Prosecutions Are Urged

WASHINGTON, July 29 (UP)—A delegation of Negroes demanded today that the Federal Government prosecute Senator Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi and Eugene Talmadge, Governor-elect of Georgia for "inciting" the lynch-murder of four negroes near Monroe, Ga., last Thursday.

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After an audience with President Truman was denied, the group went to the office of the Department of Justice, where they submitted a formal petition asking that Senator Bilbo and Mr. Talmadge be charged with "incitement to murder." They were assured, they said, that the Department of Justice would make a "full investigation."

7-31-46

Senator Bilbo called the charges "asinine" and asserted that the Georgia slayings were "not even remotely connected or associated with any exercise of the right of suffrage either in Georgia or in Mississippi."

Tuesday

The Negro delegation, he said, "could just as well charge Senators Wagner and Mead (both of New York) with being responsible for the killing of a mother and the rape and robbery of her daughter on Long Island a few days ago, because those two Senators have been preaching social and political equality between the black and white races."

Slaying of 4 Negroes Stirs Bitter Senate Row

Thomasville, Ga., Times-Enterprise
July 16, 1946

7-28

WASHINGTON, July 27.—(UP)—A brief but angry debate on race relations was touched off in the Senate Saturday when Senator William F. Knowland (Republican, California) deprecated the slaying of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga.

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Knowland, urging Georgia State authorities and the Justice Department to take all possible action to bring the mob to justice, announced he was inserting in the Congressional Record a news dispatch about the incident.

As he finished his remarks, a group of Southern Senators rose to protest what they called an attempt by Knowland to "ridicule" the State of Georgia.

Senator Richard V. Russell (Democrat, Georgia) said "there is something political" about crimes involving Negroes and white persons.

(The Associated Press reported that he added: "crime of this nature are not confined to the State of Georgia. I doubt not that if I were to peruse the newspapers of California I would find that there have been brutal crimes committed by people of that state.")

He said that if the California senator persisted in introducing accounts of Southern crimes into the Senate, he would be forced to do likewise with respect to murders in California.

Knowland replied that he would be the first to protest similar crimes if they occurred in his state.

Senator Olin D. Johnston (Democrat, South Carolina), then said Knowland had violated Senate rules by reflecting on the integrity of auother state.

The Senate, Johnston said, perhaps should give some attention "to some of the things that happen in Hollywood."

Senator William Langer (Republican, North Dakota), asked assurances from Knowland that the newspaper account did not reflect on Governor-elect Gene Talmadge of Georgia, who he added, was not in the state when the crime occurred.

Knowland concluded the flurry of debate with the observation that no senator "should remain silent when a mob of armed people murders in cold blood."

7422

Full

Truman Is Urged To Take Action

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 8-3-46

34a

Leaders throughout the Nation, shocked at the heinous lynching of four defenseless Negroes, two of them women, Thursday, at Monroe, Ga., are protesting vigorously, the barbarity of the crime against law and decency. Many of the statements have been sent directly to President Truman.

Following are some statements, and protests, in whole or in part:

GOV. ELLIS ARNALL, Governor of Georgia, in answering wire for a statement, directly to THE PITTSBURGH COURIER, said:

"The decent people of Georgia are humiliated about the mass murder of four Negroes in Walton County by an unknown mob of some twenty desperadoes. As Governor of Georgia, I am offering a reward to the full limit of the law. Five hundred dollars will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of each participant in the massacre. These rewards will total more than $10,000.

"This lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice.

"I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton County until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers.

"This mass murder is one of the worst incidents ever to take place in our State. The killing of innocent people is disgraceful—morally and legally. I am urging the local law enforcement officials of Walton County and all State agents to leave nothing undone in ferreting out the guilty parties.

"Civilized people everywhere will watch developments in connection with this heinous crime."

FORMER CONGRESSMAN ARTHUR W. MITCHELL, to President Truman:

"Dear Mr. President: I know that you, along with millions of Americans, were shocked to hear of the lynching of four colored citizens (two of them women) at Monroe, Georgia, Thursday night.

"This mass murder of good American citizens is bound to have its repercussions throughout the world, and especially at the Peace Conference, where we are told that America is taking the lead in the fight for the protection and the right of minority groups in other parts of the world.

"This 'black' crime just committed in Georgia, following closely the close of the bitter campaign in which the successful candidate for Governor promised to ride rough-shod over every civil and political right of the colored people of Georgia, seems to be a part of the Talmadge-Ku Klux-dominated program, and if not checked now, will spread and cause race violence in other parts of the South.

"It is the hope and fervent desire of good citizens in all parts of the country that you, the Chief Executive of the Nation, will speak out in strong words condemning this tragic crime and mob violence wherever it is resorted to."

Very sincerely,

ARTHUR W. MITCHELL.

FRANK L. STANLY, president of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, wired the following statement to both Governor Arnall of Georgia and President Truman:

"The horrible lynching last Thursday, July 25, of four Negroes, two of them defenseless women, following in the wake of a campaign of race hate, intimidation and threats of violence by Talmadge and Bilbo in Georgia and Mississippi, shows the breakdown of Constitutional protection for American Negroes in the South.

"We, the directors of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association meeting in special session, fear that unless the influence of your office is enlisted to insure equal protection under the Constitution of the United States for all citizens, there will continue a mounting wave of violence and bloodshed equaling the worst demonstrations of Hitler's racisms.

"To avert this disgraceful condition and to re-establish Constitutional protection, we respectfully implore you to direct a message to Congress urging enactment of a federal anti-lynching law. Should Congress adjourn without such action, we respectfully ask you to summon Congress in special session to restore and preserve law and order in America.

"Mr. President, the lives of American citizens are in jeopardy today."

[illegible] of directors of the NNPA, meeting in Chicago, Saturday, July 27, wired President Truman:

"In view of the fine record for justice, decency, and right, we respectfully call upon you to make an immediate and thorough investigation of the brutal lynching of four Negroes, including two women, near Monroe, Ga., July 25, and ask to seek that the perpetrators of these cowardly murders be brought to justice.

"We also urge the immediate removal from office of Sheriff Gordon, who says 'There is nothing else I can do.'"

POWELL-MARCANTONIO

Representatives Vito Marcantonio (ALP) and Adam C. Powell, both of New York, on Friday demanded Federal action on the lynchings. Mr. Marcantonio, in a telegram to the President, said:

"Massacre of four American citizens in Monroe, Georgia, requires prompt United States intervention. Unless immediate Government action is taken there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbos and Talmadges.

This present outrage cannot be overlooked. I respectfully urge that you act now."

Representative Adam Powell denounced the lynchings on the floor of the House as the "Georgia Massacre" and called upon the President to send troops into Georgia to prevent more incidents. He also sent a telegram to Attorney General Tom C. Clark, demanding Federal action and denouncing the murders.

WALTER WHITE, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in a statement to the press, charged that the election of Eugene Talmadge—"a man as brazen as Hitler in his racial theories"—as Governor of Georgia was responsible for the murders.

The Civil Rights Congress, headquarters in New York, stated:

"Talmadge has so encouraged the Klan that the mob even dispensed with Klan robes. ~~These murders~~ are 'white supremacy' in ~~action. The Congress also published offering~~ an added reward of $1,000 to the $10,000 announced by Governor Arnall, for information leading to the punishment of the murderers."

In a wire to Governor Arnall, it stated:

"Your vigorous opposition to the white supremacy program of the Klan is strongly endorsed by the Civil Rights Congress. We know that you will do everything in your power to punish those guilty . . ."

The Southern Negro Congress, in a letter to Attorney General Tom Clark, urged martial law in Walton and surrounding counties and a house-to-house search in the area in a full-scale operation against the Klan. It declared:

"The Government which cannot prevent or—failing to prevent—such downright bestiality, can only earn the most determined contempt and organized opposition of freedom-loving Americans."

EUGENE TALMADGE

In a statement issuend from Cheyenne, Wyo., Governor-elect Eugene Talmadge of Georgia had only this to say:

"Things like that (the four lynchings) are to be regretted." He was attending the Frontier Days Observance in the State. He added, concerning Negroes in Georgia:

"Nothing can be gained by giving equal rights to someone with an artificial civilization that has been forced upon him only 150 years ago."

MONROE MASSACRE SHOCKS NATION; PROTESTS POUR IN

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Governor Ellis Arnall Offers Reward of Full Limit of the Law; Lone Witness To Lynchings Afraid to Identify Mobsters

Sat. 8-3-46

EDITOR'S NOTE—James E. Boyack, Staff Correspondent of The Pittsburgh Courier, flew from New York City Friday to Monroe, Ga., and has been on the scene for several days. His on-the-spot coverage is exclusive to The Courier.

MONROE, Ga.—Early Sunday morning, as the brilliant sun spread its warming rays over nearby Courthouse Square, I stood in the dark back room of the Young Funeral Home here and gazed down upon the serene faces of the four-bullet-torn victims of the "Monroe Massacre."

They lay on four biers, covered in death by purple funeral blankets—Roger Malcolm, 27; his young wife, Middie Kate; George Dorsey, 27, and his wife, May. Both couples were recently married.

It was a strange contrast to the excited world outside, where officers of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, and the Monroe sheriff's office engaged in a man hunt for twenty murderers of these four farm hands, who were lynched last Thursday in the lonely woods near here.

Protests and demands for action from an indignant Nation poured into the White House and to the office of Governor Ellis Arnall in the State Capitol in Atlanta.

VICTIMS' NEIGHBORS MUTE WITH HORROR

Around that room in the bare, wooden shack were the victims' neighbors, mute with horror. As the details of their violent end were softly voiced by one, and then another, they moved from one foot to the other on the bare wooden floor. Sat. 8-3-46

Talmadge Brand Stamped on Four Georgia Lynch Victims

MONROE, Ga.—Eugene Talmadge's "Georgia brand of civilization" laid stamped and proofed on the bullet-riddled bodies of four Negroes in the basement of a mortuary here last week. Those four, just as dead as if murdered by "Gene" himself, are unaware of it, but it is his pronouncement of "white supremacy" which is partially responsible for their being there.

In Cheyenne, Wyo., Friday, Governor-Elect Eugene Talmadge of Georgia stated: "Things like that are to be regretted" . . . however . . . "nothing can be gained by giving equal rights to someone (Negroes) with an artificial civilization that has been forced upon him only 150 years ago." Sat. 8-3-46

Talmadge did not add that the murdering of the four was the type of civilization he advocated forcing upon defenseless Georgia Negroes with his strong pronouncement of "white supremacy." Maybe it was the type of friendship he had in mind when he said:

"We'll get along all right with the Negroes; their best friends are the Southern white men and most of them (Negroes) know it."

Marchers Protest Ga. Lynching In San Francisco

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

SAN FRANCISCO — A silent mourners parade of 1,300 persons marched up the main street of this city to the city hall in protest last week against the murder of the four victims of a Monroe, Ga. lynch mob.

34a

The marchers wearing black arm bands and carrying four dummy caskets marched in dead silence broken only by the sound of accompanying muffled drum beats. Sat. 8-24-46

At the city hall speakers demanded quick justice for the lynchers, protection of minorities and Congressional passage of an anti-lynch law with teeth in it. The parade was sponsored by the NAACP.

MONROE
WALTON COUNTY
GEORGIA

Down the little hill, outside, leading from Courthouse Square, others shuffled through the white dust.

Local colored businessmen, farm employes, farmers, school boys, mothers, cousins, sisters, they came as silent as at a funeral procession.

In the office next to the door, a young Negro sat at a desk reading The Pittsburgh Courier. I looked over his shoulder. The headline: "Race Cannot Stand Against Race"—Drew Pearson.

As I turned to leave, a young white man and girl entered. I noticed others mingled with the colored mourners, coming to pay their respects to the dead.

Developments over the week-end here were:

Governor Arnall told the Nation that the State of Georgia will fight mob action against Negroes with every means at its disposal.

At a press conference he declared: "I am offering a reward to the full limit of the law. Five hundred dollars will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of each participant in the massacre. These rewards will total more than $10,000. This lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice."

See Other Pictures and Stories on Page 12

Major William E. Spence, State director of Public Safety and head of the Bureau of Investigation, told the writer: Sat. 8-3-46

"This mob violence has gotten out of control. Even the best people in Walton County seem afraid to talk. They can't help us. We never had conditions like these before. We are up against a stone wall.

"When I return to Atlanta I'm going to urge the Governor to wire our Congressmen to back Federal legislation against these lynch mobs. Mob violence must be stopped. But we need Federal backing."

Grand Dragon Samuel Green of the Ku Klux Klan issued a statement saying that his organization "had nothing to do with the mob action," but expected that "Arnall will try to pin it on us."

34a

GREEN DENIES KLAN BEHIND LYNCHING

Green also declared that "we have no Klan chapter in Monroe. The Klan had nothing to do with this killing."

In Birmingham, Ala., the Southern Negro Youth Congress telegraphed U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark asking that martial law be declared in Walton County and a house-to-house search conducted for the slayers.

J. Loy Harrison, Oconee County farmer, and sole witness to the massacre, was unable to identify a suspect. The leader of the gang had stopped his car on the one-way bridge at the Walton-Oconee County line and held him prisoner while his colored employes were taken out, led back into the bushes and slain.

Major Spence took the mob leader suspect, a beer hall bouncer, into custody. He fitted the detailed description given by Harrison.

"The leader was at least twenty pounds heavier than this man," Harrison protested.

Spence later told the writer: "Till my dying day, I will always believe that he was the boss of this gang. Harrison is either scared of being killed himself, or he's lying in his teeth, or both." The Courier

Pa.

TALMADGE RACE HATE BLAMED

Governor-elect Eugene Talmadge said that "things like that are to be regretted." Pittsburgh, Pa.

But many serious-thinking Georgians whom I interviewed, laid the Monroe massacre morally at the Talmadge door because of the tide of race hatred he developed during his "white supremacy" campaign for the Governorship.

Leo Farrell, associate campaign manager for Edward Rivers, another candidate in the recent elections, went up and down the State warning voters that if Talmadge is elected "it will be considered by a great many persons as a license to kill Negroes." Sat. 8-3-46

Here is the eye-witness story of the crime, as told by J. Loy Harrison:

"I had come to Monroe from my farm to get Roger Malcolm who had made a $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his white employer, Barney Hester, 22, (the latter is still in a hospital. He had intervened in a dispute between Malcolm and his wife.)

"When I bailed out Malcolm, we were joined by his wife, and 'Rosey' and his wife, who work for me.

"On our way home, we came to the bridge across the Appalache River. I looked across, and saw a car blocking the other end of the bridge.

"I thought to myself, 'Federal men.'

"Then from both sides of the car, men began coming out. Another car came up behind me. His bumper touched mine. One of the men came out and put a shot gun against my head, saying, 'All of you put 'em up.' One man said: 'There's the man we want.' He pointed to Roger.

"Two others dragged Roger and Dorsey from the car and slipped ropes around their hands—expert like, pretty-like, and started leading them off.

WOMEN SCREAMED AND YELLED AS THEY WERE LED TO DEATH

"One of the women started cussing and called out one of the lyncher's name. Suddenly the leader of the group said, 'hold everything.' He selected four men and ordered: 'Go back and get 'em.' They were led off, too, screaming and yelling.

"I was then told to get out beside my car. I stood beside it while a little short man stood at the end of the bridge and looked down the barrel of his shotgun and at me all the time.

"One of the men looked straight at me and asked 'Do you recognize anybody here?' I replied, 'No.'

"I'd turn my head sideways and I could see the men lining 'em up. I could see the Negroes four abreast. I could see the back of the men's heads. I heard the leader of the group shout 'One, two, three.' Then there was a volley of shots. He ordered three volleys.

WHOLE THING LASTED THREE MINUTES

"Then they came back. They told me to get back into my car. They told me to leave. I turned around and as I left I saw them marching back across the bridge two by two.

"I went to the first phone and called the sheriff. The whole thing must have lasted about three minutes. But it seemed much longer. I was excited, naturally, but wasn't too scared.

"The leader was tall and dignified looking. He looked like a retired businessman. He was about 65; wore a brown suit, and had on a big, broad-rimmed hat. He looked like he had a good Florida tan. He wasn't armed.

"There were about twenty men in the group. Many of them were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me. (Harrison wears his shirt open at the neck, a brown belt and pants, similar to Army issue.)

"The men were armed with pistols and shotguns. I do not know what calibre the weapons were."

Dorsey's mother, Monia Williams, related that her son had just been released after five years in the Army, seeing service in both Australia and North Africa. Only last week, she received his discharge button in the mail.

It was the first multiple lynchings in Georgia since 1918, when ten Negroes were lynched in Brooks County. There have been nine instances of multiple lynchings in the State since 1892.

SIXTY BULLETS PUMPED INTO BODIES

Sixty bullets were pumped into the bodies of the victims, according to the coroner.

The reaction of some Georgians to the brutal massacre was summed up by one well-known citizen who told me:

"I've come to the conclusion that Georgia is no longer a fit place for a n——— to live in."

Aroused by Lynchings, Women's Group Pickets

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-10-46

Led by Mrs. Christine S. Smith, national president, approximately 350 members of the National Association of Colored Women picketed the White House for fifteen minutes on Tuesday morning to protest the recent Georgia lynching of four colored citizens.

Later, Tuesday, with their forces augmented to 500, women of the association stormed into the Capitol in an effort to see their various Senators to urge them to pass the anti-poll tax bill, now under consideration.

During the White House picketing, the delegates carried signs identifying themselves as residents of 43 different States. The signs asked Federal intervention to bring to justice the perpetrators of the Georgia crime.

Start Panic at Capitol

About 40 members of the delegation paraded in front of the White House carrying placards while the rest stood quietly in Lafayette Park, across the street.

Assisting Mrs. Smith in organizing and leading the march were Mrs. Jeanetta W. Brown, newly elected State legislator from Michigan, and Edgar Brown.

When the women entered the Capitol and demanded to see their Senators, Sergeant-at-Arms Wall Doxey, former Mississippi lame duck Congressman, became panic stricken and rounded up all the guards that were on duty in the Senate and the House.

He also issued orders that the women were not to be permitted to enter the reception room outside the Senate chamber in order to be seated in spite of their long march.

As a result, they were forced to wait in the corridors while messengers scurried about summoning Senators from the floor. In spite of this inconvenience, the women held their ground for more than two hours.

Many of the Senators refused to respond, and sent back word that they were not available.

Among those who did come out, however, was Senator Alban Barkley (Dem., Ky.), Senate majority leader, who called up the anti-poll tax bill on Monday.

He left the floor in order to shake hands with Mrs. Emma Clement, who was named "American Mother for 1946."

Californians Greeted

The Califronia delegation was greeted by Senator Knowland (Republican), who assured them that he would do all requested to force the legislation through before adjournment.

Senator Knowland was the only member of the upper house who attacked the Georgia lynchers on the floor over the week end and as a result was himself castigated by his Southern colleagues.

The Capitol was a literal beehive of activity as the women surged about, jamming the corridors and elevators.

7422
7422

7423

Jury Unable To Identify Anyone In Mass Lynching

The Advertiser, Montgomery, Ala.

34a (Results) Fri. 12-20-46

ATHENS, GA., Dec. 19.—(AP)—A Federal Grand Jury reported today after a three weeks (investigation) inability to establish the identity of any persons guilty of participating in the mass lynching of four Negroes in nearby Welton County last July 25.

Receiving the report, U. S. Judge T. Hoyt Davis refused to discharge the jury but ruled it would be recessed "subject to recall."

The victims of the lynching were Roger Malcolm and his wife and George Dorsey and his wife. The brutal crime was followed by offers of rewards for the arrest and conviction of the mob members which now total more than $30,000.

In a carefully phrased statement, the jury said it had centered its attention "on establishing the identity of individuals," connected with the slayings near Monroe, about 40 miles east of Atlanta.

The 21 white and two Negro members of the jury were told by Judge Davis that "in this situation, I have concluded that it is not the wise thing at this time for me to discharge this grand jury."

"It has been a voluminous matter and it may be that additional information could or will be brought to light," the Judge said, "and if that situation should arrive . . . I would want this grand jury to hear the matter."

The grand jury had said:

"The members of this body are unanimous in reportin gthat we have been unable to establish the identity of any person or persons participating in the murders or in any violation of the civil rights statutes of the United States."

The investigation began Dec. 3. Approximately 100 witnesses were examined, telling what they knew—or didn't know—about the bloody massacre at Apalachee Bridge. Fri. 12-20-46

The jury also considered evidence obtained by more than a score of FBI agents, who questioned more than 2,500 persons in Monroe and rural Walton and Oconee Counties in four months since the crime.

Inquiry In Negroes' Death To Continue

News-Age-Herald

Birmingham, Ala.

BY A. F. MAHAN, JR.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28—(AP)—The Justice Department disclosed today it will continue its investigation into the slaying of four Negroes by an armed band at Monroe, Ga., last July 25. (34a) (Results)

A Federal Grand Jury recently reported it was unable to establish identity of any person involved in the slayings. A Justice Department spokesman said, however, this does not make the case a dead issue.

The spokesman said "The investigation will continue." Sun.

Special assistant attorneys general and FBI agents have been utilized in investigating the quadruple killing in the past. 12-29-46

Atty. Gen. Tom C. Clark personally ordered the recent Federal Grand Jury investigation.

To Continue the Walton Investigations

The Constitution

Despite the fact that a Federal Grand Jury has found insufficient evidence to indict, the determination grows that the slayers of four helpless Walton County Negroes July 25 must be apprehended and punished. Atlanta, Ga. Sun. 12-22-46

In time, if the probe of the vicious slaying is pushed intelligently and relentlessly enough, a break will come. It may be that some witness, seeking to even a grudge, will tell what he knows. Or it may be that one of those who took part brooding over the enormity of his crime and fearing the final judgment, will make a clean confession.

Until that time, a blot will be, not alone on Walton and Oconee Counties, but on Georgia and the Southland. We can only serve to alleviate it by continuing our efforts to uncover the guilty and by preventing any recurrence of the crime.

7424

$10,000 Reward by Arnall Spurs Statewide Manhunt

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-3-46

34a

By CARDELL W. M'VICKERS

MONROE, Ga.—Gene Talmadge's "fellow countrymen" wearing "Simon Legree" hats took over just outside this middle Georgia town last Thursday at sundown, and using a page from Hitler's Mein Kampf, which the governor-nominee has read many times, committed America's worst lynching, snuffing out four lives, two of them women.

Two young Georgia farmers, one of them just released from the Army after serving honorably for five years in North Africa, Europe and the Pacific, and their wives were slain on a lonely road in what Major William E. Spence, of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, after a day and night of intense work, suggested was a "rehearsed affair."

Georgia citizens of both races were tense with feeling and indignation, characterizing the mass brutalities as the first effect of Talmadge's go-sign to the "wool hate" boys that manipulated him into office by disfranchising and purging thousands of colored voters in the black belt of this Southern Empire State, and by intimidation and actual violence.

34a

Gov. Ellis Arnall, plainly disturbed by the way-laying of the quartet as they rode with a white farm operator in the hinterlands of Walton county, spurred the investigation and announced he was offering on behalf of the State rewards totaling more than $10,000 for a solution to the killings.

Meanwhile public reaction to the lynchings mounted. There were many angles to the brutal slayings, including one of an alleged clandestine affair between one of the woman victims and a white man, who was cut when he interfered with a family fight.

Rewd

Wanted to Get Crop

There was another angle that a free-of-debt crop owned by one of the victims led to his death and that of his three innocent companions.

The Afro-American

First reports allowed to "leak out" of Walton county a full 24 hours after the occurrence said that Roger Malcolm, his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Malcolm, George Dorsey and his wife, Mrs. Mae H. Dorsey, were riding in an automobile with L. Loy Harrison, prosperous white farmer, en route to Oconee county, when halted by the mob at a bridge over the Apalachee river.

Baltimore, Md.

The site of the stark brutality was about ten miles from Monroe, about 50 from Atlanta, the State's capital.

Malcolm had just been released from jail under a $600 bond in the two-week's old stabbing of B. H. Hester Jr., his employer. It seems that Harrison had just driven Malcolm's wife and the Dorseys to town to put up the bond.

Mob Tipped Off

Sat. 8-3-46

While they shopped and looked around, Harrison "had to have his car fixed," a mysterious circumstance which many local observers plainly state was a tip-off to the well-drilled mobsters to swing into action.

Harrison, returning later, picked up the trio, proceeded to jail and bailed Malcolm out. Then the five persons began their trip on a seldom used road to Oconee county and Harrison's farm.

As they approached the Moore's Ford bridge, in Walton county and less than 75 feet from the Oconee county line, a car suddenly loomed of them, blocking the road and the bridge.

Suddenly, white men appeared from all around, armed to the hilt with pistols, shotguns and rifles. Harrison said the mob forced him to move away from the car, and after tying the hands of the men behind their backs with ropes, marched them a short distance from the car.

As the white men marched their husbands away, Mrs. Malcolm is said to have recognized one of the mobsters, and addressing him by name, pleaded with him not to kill her husband.

Go Back for Women

The leader of the mob, reportedly a bespectacled, fairly distinguished-looking countryman, halted the movement and yelled, "I guess you better bring those damned women along, too."

The quartet was marched to a road beside the river. Somebody counted, "one, two, three," the volleys of the assortment of guns resounded in the valley. Down dropped the two men and their wives, pools of blood gathering at their feet.

Two more volleys were pumped into their lifeless bodies.

When Walton County Sheriff E. S. Gordon and his deputies reached the scene, they found the two men tied with ropes and the bodies of their wives just a few feet away. The gunfire had been concentrated on the heads and chests of the victims. There were multiple bullet wounds, parts of bodies were blown away by shotgun charges, and every portion was peppered with lead slugs.

At the coroner's inquest, Harrison, the lone witness, said he did not see the actual lynching, that he was kept in the car and shielded from viewing the atrocity.

Threatened by Lyncher

At one time, he said, a mobster asked him threateningly if he knew anybody at the scene, and when he replied he did not, he was allowed to get in his car and go his way.

Following the usual custom, the jury impaneled by the one-armed, unkempt, unshaven coroner, W. T. Brown, returned a verdict of "Death at the hands of unknown parties."

Although the facts were not brought out at the inquest, since Harrison was the lone witness Malcolm's stabbing of Hester is regarded as the background of the lynching.

According to sources regarded as authentic, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm engaged in a family dispute about two weeks prior to the lynching. Mrs. Malcolm is reported to have gone to Hester's home and told him about the fight.

Hester is said to have returned with her to the Malcolm house and a fight ensued, during which Malcolm was quoted as saying that he had heard Hester had been going with his wife. During the scuffling and fighting, Hester was stabbed and rushed to the Walton County hospital.

It was reported that immediately after the stabbing, a group of white men went to Malcolm's home and threatened to kill him, whereupon a white woman interceded and called the sheriff.

The woman reportedly told the would-be lynchers then that Malcolm was a "good boy and wouldn't bother anyone unless they bothered him." She requested the sheriff to lock Malcolm in jail for his own protection, the story goes.

There was another report from relatives of the slain man that Malcolm was debt-free and had full claim on a fine crop soon to be harvested. He is said to have used his savings accumulated while a soldier and his discharge pay to keep himself debt-free and was looked upon as somewhat "biggety."

Immediately following the breaking of the news of the multiple lynching, Major W. E. Spence, director of the Georgia Department of Public Safety and representatives from the State Bureau of Investigation were on the scene and joined Sheriff Gordon in investigating the lynchings.

FBI Indifferent

In Washington, Attorney General Tom Clark's office announced that he had ordered a complete investigation into the slayings. FBI men from Atlanta reached the scene seven hours later, but expressed the opinion that "no civil rights had been violated. It's a State case."

Meanwhile, colored citizens of Monroe were spiritually sick. The four lynch victims, their bodies riddled with bullets, lay in Young's Funeral Home, where thousands of both races went to view them. One embalmer counted at least 180 bullet holes in one of the victims' body, mute testimony of the savage hate behind the lynchings.

Colored citizens appeared, however, to be without fear of the element which has taken advantage of four of their number. There was an immediate feeling that nothing would be done about the lynchings. Gov. Arnall's reward offer was heartening, however.

34a Ga.

Commenting on the crime, Maj. Spence, bitter over the refusal of witnesses in Monroe to talk, said:

"The best people in town won't talk about this. They have an idea who it is. When I get back to Atlanta, I'm going to ask the Governor to appeal to every Congressman to help pass Federal legislation against mob violence.

"It looks like this thing was a rehearsed affair. It must have been planned ever since Malcolm was first confined to jail."

Gov. Arnall instructed GBI agents to stay in Walton County until the guilty parties have been indentified and turned over to law enforcement officers.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced in New York last night that it was offering $10,000, matching the reward offered by Gov. Ellis Arnall shortly after the July 25 lynchings.

The National Maritime Union (CIO) added $5,000 in honor of "6,000 seamen who died in World War II."

Shortly before announcement of the rewards, Maj. William E. Spence, of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, circulated handbills in this area advising that $14,000 had been offered for the convictions.

Walter White, secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., who announced the reward, said their investigators here had evidence pointing to guilt of some of the mob leaders and this had been turned over to the Department of Justice.

President Truman has directed the Department of Justice to use all its resources to arrest the men who killed the Negroes, one of whom had just been released from jail where he was charged with stabbing his white employer. The other three, including two women, were accompanying him home.

Private Organizations Add Funds To Reward For Lynch Convictions

The News Birmingham, Ala.

Thurs. 8-1-46

MONROE, Ga. Aug. 1—(AP)—Rewards for arrest and conviction of the mobsters who shot four Negroes to death by a country roadside near here neared $30,000 today as private organizations augmented the fund started by the state.

34a

LYNCH PROBE ON

The ★ ★ ★ ★ Courier ★ ★ ★ Pittsburgh ★ ★ ★ Pa.

Seek to Indict for Georgia Massacre

3Ha Investigation

By J. RICHARDSON JONES, Special Correspondent Sat. 12-7-46

7425

ATHENS, Ga.—The Department of Justice hoped for one or more indictments as a Federal Grand Jury began hearing evi- ence here Monday morning in the lynching of two colored men and their wives near Monroe last July. Immediately after going into ession, the jurors began reading testimony and evidence obtained by FBI agents over a four-month period of investigation. Principal itness who will be called before the Grand Jury is Loy Harrison, white middle-aged farmer, who was driving the two couples to his rm when the mob of bout twenty whites appeared.

For Federal conviction the Government must establish hat some State officer "in- ntionally and knowingly" [illegible] another person of [illegible]. Murder charges, [illegible], would be a ate matter.

AIL EXAMINED

More than $60,000 in re- rds have been offered for [illegible] arrest and conviction of ilty parties. President uman, expressing horror, dered the Justice Depart- nt "to proceed with all its [illegible]" in an effort to break [illegible] case, and J. Edgar Hoo- [illegible] FBI chief, assigned [illegible] rles Weeks, agent in [illegible] ge at New Orleans, to [illegible] a special "investigating [illegible]

[illegible] officials recently re- [illegible] they had questioned [illegible] persons and examined [illegible] pieces of mail in con- [illegible] with the Monroe [illegible]

[illegible] gruesome lynching of Roger [illegible] and George Dorsey and [illegible] at the Apalachee Bridge [illegible] one of the most gruesome [illegible] ever committed in this cou[illegible] it sent a wave of horror [illegible] out the world.

[illegible] quadruple lynching was the [illegible] of a clash between Ro[illegible] and a white man [illegible] the man after [illegible] molesting his wi[illegible] [illegible] released from jail under [illegible]

The four victims were scarcely recognizable after hundreds of bullets had been pumped into their bodies. The two women victims were sisters. The Courier

Loy Harrison had gained the release of Malcolm and was driving the two couples to his farm when the mob appeared at the bridge and demanded the Malcolms and Dorseys. Pittsburgh, Pa.

One puzzling factor in the case is that Harrison was driving on a seldom used dirt road, a much longer route, when he could have reached his farm sooner by taking the main highway.

He later told police officers he did not recognize any of the mobsters. One of the women recognized the leader of the lynch gang and pleaded with him to save the lives of Dorsey and Malcolm. Realizing that the woman knew him, the mob leader then ordered the women lynched as well as their husbands. Sat. 12-7-46

Governor Ellis Arnall, who demanded a complete investigation, said recently that "sooner or later convictions are inevitable."

'Court of Death' Possibility May Be Told in Walton Killing

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Wed. 12-4-46

By JOHN COURIC,
Constitution Staff Writer.

ATHENS, Dec. 3—Possibility that a court of death decreed the Walton County slaying of four Negroes nine days beforehand at a scene near the bloody execution ground will be considered by the Federal Grand Jury investigating the case here.

This was indicated Tuesday when Mrs. Jesse Warwick, wife of a Methodist Minister, of Monroe, appeared as a witness, prepared to testify she saw three carloads of men conferring not far from the death scene on July 16, more than a week before the slaying.

34a

The gathering was seen only two days after Barney Hester, white farmer, was stabbed, allegedly by Roger Malcolm, one of the Negroes who died in a hail of lead.

The Rev. Mr. Warwick accompanied his wife to the Federal Courthouse and told reporters the experience she is prepared to relate. He declared Mrs. Warwick, who was returning from a Missionary Society meeting, could hot identify the men of the group.

Among the first group of witnesses ordered to appear Tuesday was Loy Harrison, farmer from whom the two Negro men and their wives were taken and slain. The jury, however, spent its session Tuesday questioning agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who emerged from the closed hearing tight-lipped and grim-visaged.

Harrison, scheduled to be the Number One witness, was ordered, along with others, to return Wednesday. When Harrison emerged from the witness room he told reporters:

"I don't know a dam thing."

Four Negro witnesses who must return Wednesday are relatives of the victims of the quadruple slaying. They are: Moena Williams, mother of George Dorsey and Dorothy Malcolm, two of the victims, and her husband, Jim; Columbus (Charlie Boy) Dorsey, brother of a victim, and his wife, Ruby.

Besides George Dorsey and Dorothy Malcolm, the other two victims were Roger Malcolm and Mae Dorsey.

The four Negro witnesses, all employed by Harrison, were transported in his automobile to the hearing and left the Courthouse to go home with Harrison.

Concerning one puzzling aspect of the case the four Negroes told reporters: "It's said Negroes erected the four wooden crosses which appeared mysteriously at the death scene several days after the slayings.

First white witness to seat himself in a witness waiting room was tall, gaunt Barney Hester, still recuperating from the stab wound

which Roger Malcolm was accused of administering.

Hester, still pale from days spent in a hospital, said he wore a tube which drained the wound just below his heart.

Court officials carried a large blackboard to the room next to the Grand Jury's hearing chamber and observers theorized that the 21 white and two Negro jurors would use diagrams in their efforts to mould bits of information into indictments charging the deprivation of civil liberties.

Since this is the most serious charge over which the Federal Government has jurisdiction in this case, any positive proof which may be obtained will be available to State Courts which could prosecute murder charges.

The 21 witnesses called for Tuesday, including Harrison, Hester and the Negro relatives, must appear Wednesday and await their call from the Grand Jury Bailiff.

Jury Queries 10 Witnesses in Mass Lynching

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Wed. 12-11-46

ATHENS, Dec. 10—(AP)—A tired Federal Grand Jury appeared near the half-way mark Tuesday night after completing the sixth day of interrogation in the Walton County mass-lynching of four Negroes.

The jury interviewed 10 witnesses Tuesday, and U. S. Dist. Atty. John Cowart estimated there still were 50 to be called. About 100 originally were summoned.

Interrogated were near kin of Loy Harrison, from whose car the Negroes were taken to gunshot execution. And Barney Hester, whose stabbing by one of the lynch victims occurred 11 days before the murders.

34a

They included Joe Parish, Harrison's brtother-in-law, and two Hester brothers, George Robert and James Weldon Hester.

Others who testified were Thomas Grady Malcolm, Weyman Fletcher Malcolm, Cleonius Malcolm, Levy Adock, Willie Lou Head and an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Dick Hunter.

The jury resumes its inquiry at 9 a. m. Wednesday.

Walton Witness Indicted On 2 Counts of Perjury

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

34a

ATHENS, Dec. 16—(AP)—In the first real break of a two-weeks probe into the slaying of four Walton County Negroes last July, a Federal Grand Jury Monday indicted one of its witnesses for perjury.

U. S. District Attorney John Cowart said that George Alvin Adcock, of Monroe, Ga., was indicted on two counts of false testimony as a result of statements he made to the grand jury Dec. 11.

Adcock, one of more than 100 witnesses appearing here as the Federal Government intensified its investigation of the slaying last July, immediately posted bond of $2,000.

Tues. 12-17-46

In one count the indictment alleged that Adcock denied leaving his home, except to attend church, on the day that two Negro men and their wives were slain by a mob near Apalachee bridge, in Walton County.

The true bill said that Adcock in reality visited the town of Monroe.

In another count the grand jury said Adcock falsely testified, "No, sir, I didn't go," when he was asked if he had accompanied others to Moore's Ford, the scene of the slayings.

The grand jury, which counts two Negroes among its members, begins a third week of investigation Tuesday and Cowart said that he "hopes to wind it up by the end of the week."

Sixteen witnesses, including Adcock's mother, Mrs. Powell Adcock, were called before the grand jury Monday after a weekend recess. About 25 additional witnesses are yet to be heard and then the grand jury may recall some who have testified previously.

The grand jury began considering evidence gathered by FBI agents on Dec. 3—a mass of documents based on interviews with some 2,500 persons and examination of 30,000 pieces of mail.

Jury Indicts Georgian In Lynching Probe

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

Tues. 34a 12-17-46

Athens, Ga., Dec. 16 (AP)—In the first real break of a two-week probe into the slaying of four Walton County Negroes last July, a federal grand jury today indicted one of its witnesses for perjury.

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Denied Leaving Home.

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In another count the grand jury said Adcock falsely testified, "No sir, I didn't go," when he was asked if he had accompanied others to Moores Ford, the scene of the lynching on July 26, the day after the lynching.

The grand jury, which counts two Negroes among its members, begins a third week of investigation tomorrow and Cowart said later today that he "hopes to wind it up by the end of the week."

First Break In Walton Lynch Probe Comes With Indictment For Perjury

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

34a

Tues. 12-17-46

ATHENS, — (SNS) — The indictment of George Alvin Adcock of Monroe Monday by the federal grand jury investigating the lynching of four Negroes at Moore's Ford in Walton County constituted the first real break in the two-week investigation.

Adcock was indicted for perjury on two counts of false testimony involving statements he made to the grand jury on December 11, said U. S. District Attorney Cowart.

In one count Adcock is alleged to have denied that he left his home, except to attend church on the day of lynching.

According to the true bill, Adcock visited the town of Monroe on that day.

In the second count the grand jury said Adcock denied that he visited Moore's Ford, the scene of the lynching on July 26.

The grand jury on which there are two Negroes Tuesday begins its third week of questioning of witnesses. U. S. District Attorney Cowart said he hoped to finish by [illegible] week.

Among the sixteen witnesses questioned Monday was Mrs. Powell Adcock. About 25 additional witnesses are yet to be heard and some who have testified may be recalled.

Adcock immediately posted bond of $2,000.

12-17-46

The grand jury began hearing evidence gathered by FBI agents December 3—a mass of documents based on interviews with some 2,500 persons and examination of 30,000 pieces of mail.

The Georgia Lynching Inquiry

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

34a

Sat. 12-14-46

Right now the eyes of the entire civilized world are on the Federal Grand Jury inquiry in Athens, Ga., of the quadruple lynching last July when two married couples were shot to pieces by a mob.

The world is eager to see whether this inquiry is going to result in indictments, trials and convictions or whether America is once again to be forced to admit before the civilized people of the universe that it is incapable of defending the lives of its citizens at home while demanding that American interests be protected abroad.

It seems incredible that after months of investigation by the law enforcement officers of the State of Georgia and the United States that so little evidence about the lynchers of these innocent citizens has apparently been uncovered.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation boasts that not one German, Italian or Japanese spy eluded its operatives during the recent war, and yet it seems to be unable so far to bring a single one of the dozens who participated in the Monroe lynching before the bar of justice.

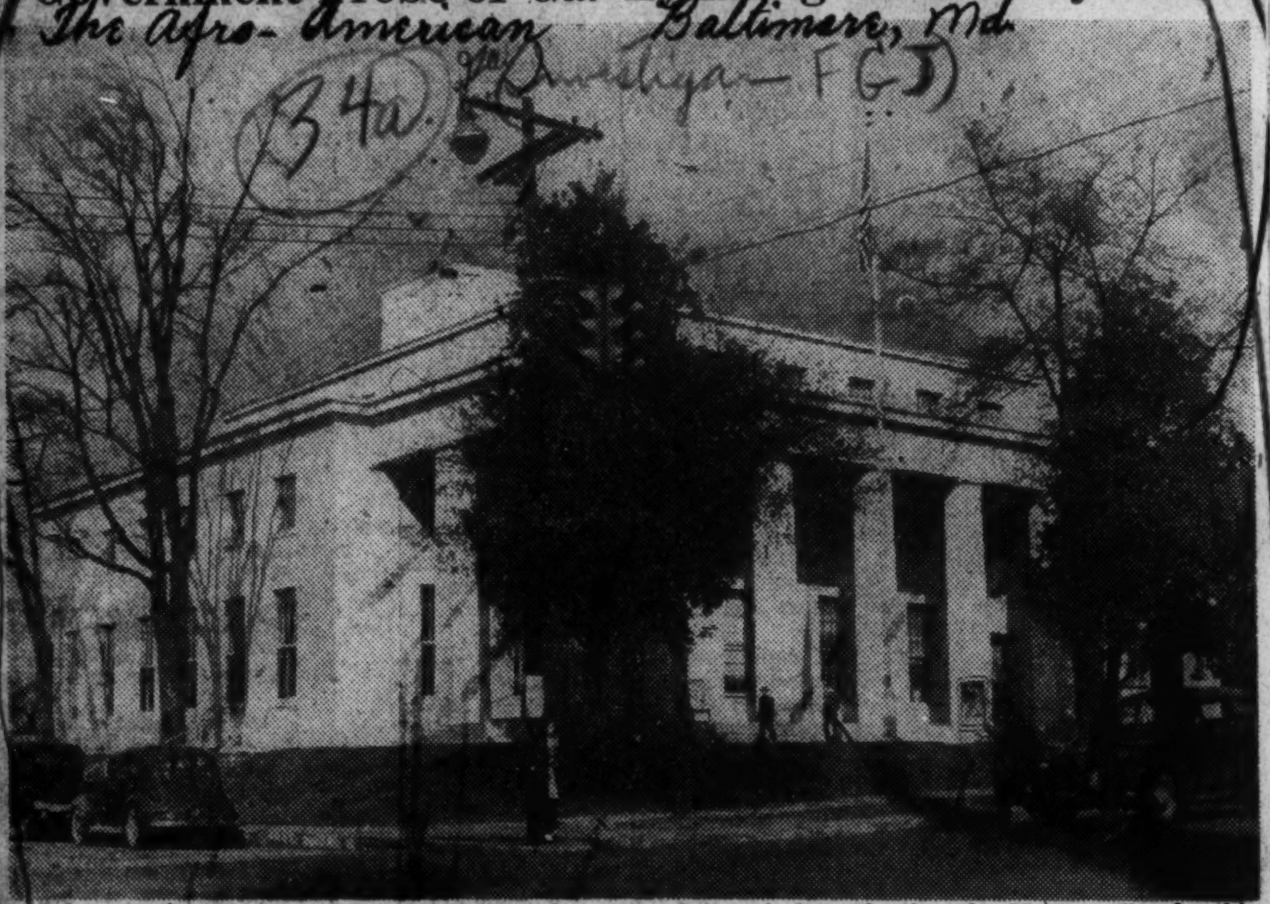
It may be that the Federal Government possesses evidence not so far divulged, and we hope that it has, but from what has been presented to the grand jury so far, there is no reason to be optimistic.

If nothing comes of this inquiry there will be added reason for a strong Federal anti-lynching law.

Government Probe of Ga. Lynching Under Way Here

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

(34a) Investigation - FGJ)



This is Federal Courthouse at Athens, Ga., where grand jury is investigating the Monroe, Ga., lynching of four persons, two men and two women, last July. The hearings are conducted behind closed doors and newsmen are forbidden to question jurors and witnesses. Federal Judge Hoyt Davis is presiding and U.S. District Attorney John P. Cowart has 100 witnesses to support the Government's contention that the July 25 mass lynching violated their civil rights. Sat. 12-14-46

U. S. Jury Probe of Walton Killings To Open With 100 Witnesses Ready

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Mon. 12-2-46

(Fed. Gr. Jury)

By ED BRIDGES

ATHENS, Dec. 1—(UP)—A score of FBI special agents investigating for four months last July's killing of four Negroes in nearby Walton County will give their evidence to a federal grand jury convening here Monday.

34a/Pa

President Truman personally ordered the all-out FBI inquiry after a mob of about 20 white men blasted Roger Malcolm and George Dorsey and their wives to death at twilight in an isolated spot near the Apalachie river.

Number one witness for the Government will be J. Loy Harrison, prosperous Walton County farmer, from whom the Negroes were seized. He was driving them to his farm from the County Seat, Monroe, where he had bailed Malcolm out of jail.

The Negro was under a charge of stabbing Barney Hester, Jr., his white former employer. Hester allegedly tried to stop a row between Malcolm and Malcolm's wife. The farmer survived the near-fatal stabbing.

It was possible that several Negroes will be among the 23 grand [illegible] by Judge T. Hoyt Davis. First witnesses have been summoned for Tuesday. Indications are the investigation will continue two or three weeks.

Investigators have had a tough assignment running down clues. At least 2,500 persons have been questioned. The slaying scene and road in the vicinity have been combed again and again for material evidence, such as shoe and tire tracks, buttons or personal belongings of mobsters.

More than 100 witnesses are scheduled to testify. They will be questioned by U. S. District Attorney John P. Cowart, and John Kelly, of the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, Washington.

Harrison told authorities he did not know any one in the slaying party but would recognize any of them if he saw them again.

Meanwhile, Tranquil, rural Walton County is sick of the international publicity brought to its name by the crime.

Particularly is the County Seat of Monroe disturbed by worldwide reference to the backwoods execution as "the Monroe lynching."

True, Roger Malcolm was released from the county jail at Monroe an hour before he and the other three Negroes slumped in death against trees.

But, Monroe Mayor Ed L. Almand points out, the scene of the slayings is "about 50 feet inside Walton county" and near two other county lines.

Youthful Mayor Almand has a file of protesting letters and telegrams, newspaper stories and editorials, resolutions and condemnations that has grown thick during the four months since the killings.

In Monroe drug stores and restaurants this weekend, the citizens preferred to talk about the Georgia-Georgia Tech football game. But they are glad the grand jury has been convened, so that rumor can be separated from fact, so something concrete can get on record.

Walton county, in a prosperous agricultural section 35 miles east of Atlanta, has a population of 20,000. Most of the Negro population is farm-employed.

Progress Claimed in Lynch Probe

Afro-American

By OLLIE STEWART

12-14-46-Sat.

Staff Correspondent

34a

ATHENS, Ga.—"Definite progress had been made," according to a report which leaked out of the courtroom here where a Federal Grand Jury of 21 whites and two colored men on Dec. 3 began closed hearings on the mass murder last July 25 of two men and two women, near Monroe, Ga.

It's only a report, however, for nobody is talking in this town these days, where a thick pall of silence pervades. Witnesses go direct to the courtroom upon arrival—and are immediately loaded into trucks when the day's session is ended. Baltimore, Md.

Reporters are forbidden to question witnesses at the courthouse. On one occasion, an official shouted at newsmen, "Get away and stay, even if Truman sent you."

Ruling Dooms U.S. Action

With Federal Judge T. Hoyt Davis presiding, U.S. District Attorney John P. Cowart hopes, with the testimony of 100 witnesses, to prove that the slayers violated the victims' Federal civil rights—which will allow the Federal Government to act. 12-14-46-Sat.

Otherwise, whatever indictments are returned will have to be acted upon by State officials.

This hope for Federal action, however, according to well-informed sources, seems doomed, since Judge Davis has already informed the jurors that a Federal murder indictment can only be returned "if the crime is committed on a Federal reservation, on the high seas or against a Federal officer on duty."

None of these conditions obtain in the case, and the jurist has instructed the jurors to indict on a lesser Federal charge, such as violation of civil liberties, or to recommend that their evidence be turned over to local authorities for criminal action. 34a/Ka

Harrison's Memory Blank

The case was transferred here to Athens, which is 30 miles north of Monroe, on the grounds that civil liberties were involved in the quadruple lynching.

The first witness called, Loy Harrison, from whose car the victims were taken by the mob, testified that he did not recognize any member of the mob. He hauls the colored witnesses to and from court, since they live on his farm.

Most of the jurors are plain dirt farmers, as are most of the witnesses. Afro-American

Jurors, Victim Kin?

Another report being circulated is that two of the white jurors, Herschel K. Malcolm, and Alton P. Malcolm, are relatives of Barney Hester, whose alleged stabbing by one of the lynch victims is said to have caused the mass killing. 12-14-46

Authorities have been asked t investigate whether relatives o one of the key witnesses, and ke figures in the case, will be allowe to serve on the grand jury. Sat.

FBI Queried 2,500

Evidence obtained by a picke group of FBI agents, who bega work four months ago, upon direc orders from President Truma and who questioned some 2,50 witnesses, will be made availab to the jury. Baltimore, Md.

But Federal authorities are no yet ready to predict that indic ments will be forthcoming.

Yet another report states tha an ambulance was following be hind the Harrison car as the occu pants, unknowingly, were bein driven to a rendezvous with death

The killing occurred about 4:3 p.m. and barely five hours and a half later, at 10 o'clock tha night, three of the bodies wer partially embalmed when turn over to a colored undertaker.

Jury Questions 30 In Monroe Ga. Massacre

The Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 12-14-46

Quiz Farmer Six Hours; Fifty More Witnesses On List

34a (Invest)

By JOHN LeFLORE

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ATHENS, Ga.—A 23-man federal grand jury, including two Negroes, heard 30 witnesses tell last week what they know of the gruesome quadruple Monroe lynching in Walton county last July 25.

Proceedings which last week held a white man for six hours of gruelling query continued at 9 a.m. Monday with more than 50 witnesses remaining to testify in the case.

The white man that the federal jury probe considers the most important witness called to the stand last week is J. Loy Harrison, prosperous Oconee County farmer, and former moonshiner, from whose car Roger and Dorothy Malcolm and George and Mae Dorsey were dragged to their cruel murder. The two married couples were killed by shotgun blasts of a white mob last summer.

Harrison has stoutly maintained that he could not identify the members of the mob of 20 or more unmasked persons who took the two couples from his automobile on the lonely Moore's Ford dirt road in a wooded river bottom section near the Apalachee river bridge separating Walton and Onconee counties.

Grilled For Six Hours

Harrison's stubborn statement in this particular has remained puzzling in view of his long residence in the lynch area and the fact that Dorothy Malcolm is known to have called the names of more than one of the monsters as she pleaded, that the lives of the four of them be spared.

Harrison was interrogated for three hours Wednesday and unexpectedly recalled to the stand on Thursday, and grilled for six hours. Upon leaving the courtroom after the second successive day of examination, he seemed quite haggard and disturbed.

The federal government has kept its finger upon him for further questioning, if necessary. He was tight-lipped and refused to talk as he emerged from the courtroom Thursday. 12-14-46

Denies Clandestine Affair

Also called to testify Wednesday was Barney Hester Jr., with whom Roger Malcolm had had an altercation which precipitated the lynching. One report is that the white man had been carrying on a clandestine sex affair with the wife of Malcolm, and that this led to the Negro's stabbing Hester.

However, Hester testified on the stand that he had interferred in Malcolm's domestic affairs to stop a quarrel between the couple, and that Malcolm then stabbed him.

He denied any part in the lynching, pointing out that he was still in the hospital, as a result of the stab wound, when the brutal mob murder occurred.

(34a) Ka

Hester is related to one of the deputy sheriffs of the Walton county law enforcement staff.

Minister's Wife Testifies

(Invest)

Mrs. Jessie Warwick, white, wife of a Monroe minister, testified to seeing two or three carloads of men gathered on a roadside in the vicinity of Monroe between the time Hester was stabbed and the

Probing Jury To Hold Nation's Eyes Tuesday

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Sun. 12-1-46

34a

By MARJORY SMITH

When the first witness is called before a Federal Grand Jury in Athens Tuesday to testify regarding the slaying of four Negroes in Walton County last July 25, a continuous four-month public clamor for justice may be stilled.

U. S. Atty. John P. Cowart, of the Middle District of Georgia, flanked by Washington officials representing the Department of Justice's Crime Division, will for the first time present the results of long and concentrated Federal investigations of the killings.

Government prosecutors expect the Grand Jury to indict "several persons" on basis of evidence which they will present before that body. To date, no persons have been arrested or even officially charged in the case.

Department of Justice officials, headed by John Kelly, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, came to Athens from Washington last week to prepare final briefs on Government evidence.

SHOTS STILL RING

Results of the Grand Jury investigation, whether arrest and ultimate conviction of the criminals or an abortive "miss" at establishing their identity, will be spotlighted nationally.

Shots which riddled the bodies of two helpless Negro farmhands and their wives, waylaid by a group of white men near Monroe, were heard around the nation—heart-sickening echoes are still ringing.

The killers who dragged Roger Malcolm, alleged Negro attacker of a white farmer, from the car of a Walton County white resident, did not spare his three Negro companions.

Loy Harrison, farmer who made Malcolm's bond and who said he was taking the Negroes to his farm when the incident occurred, told the story of the massacre—but claimed he could not identify the slayers.

From President Truman, who almost immediately demanded that full weight of the Department of Justice be thrown behind an investigation of the crime, to publicity-ridden Georgians, who pleaded that the people of Walton County "not be held guilty for the brutal and wanton acts of a few," there was nation-wide demand for punishment.

CONGRESS OUTBREAK

News of the incident caused an outbreak in Congress, when members of the House and Senate took the floor to demand that the Federal Government intervene in apprehending the criminals.

Church groups, civic organizations, and municipalities throughout the United States passed resolutions deploring the massacre.

On the news front, however, only silence came from Monroe and Walton County. Agents of the FBI and the GBI swarmed over the area on the trail of the killers—a trail that had already cooled the day after the murders. Federal investigators have maintained a strict silence on their progress in solving the crime which James B. Carey, Secretary-Treasurer of the CIO, told President Truman "put the nation on trial."

Announcement from Department of Justice headquarters brought two reactions in Atlanta.

One faction declared that the action was "merely a political gesture" and expressed doubt that any indictments would be returned by the Grand Jury. Spokesmen pointed out a special FBI unit, assigned to the case, has already questioned some 2,500 persons without perceptible results.

SPENCE CONFIDENT

But Maj. W. E. Spence, Director of Georgia's Department of Public Safety, who initiated investigation of the slayings the day following their occurrence, commented:

"I've always maintained the case would break and I still think it will. The Grand Jury probe will be beneficial in showing people what has been going on."

And Gov. Ellis Arnall, more publicly out-spoken than Federal investigators, has declared that "some 15 to 17 members of the mob are known," adding, "The difficulty has been getting evidence to convict them."

GBI officials admitted from the first difficulties encountered by reluctance of Walton County citizens to discuss the case, and first FBI agents to reach the scene found every possible trace of evidence had been deliberately effaced.

John F. Trost, former FBI Special Agent in Atlanta, is commonly reputed to have resigned from the Federal Bureau of Investigation over a disagreement with his Washington headquarters as to how the Walton County probe was to be conducted.

Atty. Gen. Clark himself declared the Federal Government's jurisdiction in such cases "depends upon a thin thread of law."

Because of these circumstances—and the national repercussions attendant upon the Walton County slayings—eyes of the nation will be focused Tuesday on a little group of men in Athens, and evidence produced before them may affect Georgia's reputation and stature for a long time to come.

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2 Negroes Among 21 Member Panel Study Evidence

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Wed. 12-4-46

Judge Calls On Jury To Determine What Laws Violated

34a

ATHENS, Ga. — (SNS) — The Athens federal grand jury Tuesday heard FBI testimony in the brutal mass lynching of four Negroes in Walton county July 25. Testimony will continue this (Wednesday morning).

The grand jury will possibly question Loy Harrison, driver of the car from which the four victims were taken and shot down at Apalachee bridge on the Oconee River. Harrison was called but not questioned by the jury Tuesday. The Oconee white farmer bailed out Roger Malcolm from the jail at Monroe a short time before a mob of 2 men stopped his car and marched his four passengers to their deaths.

Harrison and 19 of his neighbors sat in two waiting rooms down the corridor awaiting summons before the grand jury on the first day of actual proceedings on the case.

Among those awaiting summons was Barney Hester, Jr., said to be just recovering from a stab wound allegedly inflicted by Roger Malcolm and the affair which led to the mass lynchings. Among others present to be called was Ben Dickerson, Monroe city police chief, and Riden and Emerson Farmer, who live on Moore's Ford Road, near the scene of the mass slaying.

Four Negro witnesses were in an adjoining room. They were Jim Williams, Columbus Dorsey and Mrs. Ruby Dorsey.

Mrs. Moena Williams was the mother of two of the victims—George Dorsey and Mrs. Middle Kate Malcolm, wife of Roger Malcolm. Columbus Dorsey is the son of Mrs. William while Jim Williams is present husband of Mrs. Williams. Ruby Dorsey is the wife of Columbus Dorsey. All of the witnesses presently live on Loy Harrison's farm on an RFD route out of Bogart, and are in the employ of the white farmer.

A federal grand jury of 21 white man and two Negroes was charged by Judge T. Hoyt Davis here Monday to make fearless and fair inquiry into all evidence submitted to it.

"I don't know what is to be presented, said Judge Davis", but he told them that District Attorney John P. Cowart would request them to "inquire into an occurrence in the neighboring county of Walton."

Not at any time during the charge did Judge Davis mention the lynching by name.

Daily World

Among this first federal panel to sit in Athens in many years are two jurors who gave Monroe addresses. There must be agreement among 12 of the juror, 23 jurors in order to return a true bill.

Pointing out that federal courts have no jurisdiction over the offense of murder except under well defined conditions, he admonished the jurors:

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"If the grand jury in its investigation of any matter should discover there has been a violation of law which does not fall within the jurisdiction of the federal court......this grand jury and the officers of this court would be well withing the bounds of propriety to furnish state authorities concerned with this information."

12-4-46

"Your function," the jurist summed up, "is to ascertain whether the criminal laws of the United States have been violated. The federal courts and the state courts are moving toward the same great end—the sound, firm administration of the law under which we live. State and federal courts function within their prescribed jurisdictions. If there is no jurisdiction, that is the end of my inquiry."

Atlanta, Ga.

The jury retired immediately after the charge to take dispose of routine matters in order to go into the lynching case Tuesday.

Wed.

Pistol Expert Testifies In Lynching Inquiry

The News Birmingham, Ala.

ATHENS, Ga., Dec. 13—(AP)—A Federal Grand Jury investigating the lynchings of four Negroes questioned a rural pistol dealer and recalled three other witnesses for additional inquiry yesterday. At least 36 witnesses remain to be interrogated.

34a

Fri. 12-13-46

The pistol expert, 72-year-old J. Tom Long, was among four new witnesses quizzed in the mass lynchings last July near Monroe, Ga. His appearance led to speculation that the jury might hope to learn who owned the guns which killed two Negro farm hands and their wives in the massacre of Apalachee

Long has bought and sold fire arms for two generations in the back country surrounding Monroe.

Truth And Prejudice

The News Birmingham, Ala.

Tues. 12-10-46

Some things should be said aloud and some things behind closed doors. Any person of intelligence and culture knows that fact to be true. By and large, a matter which affects the reputation of a community should be made as public as any individual wants it to be. If crime has been committed which blackened the community's good name, and if the processes of the law in orderly manner begin to grind out justice, no matter how slowly, then that community should not only permit publicity but should eagerly welcome it.

34a

Hence it is with both horror and anger that one reads what happened in a United States District Courthouse in Athens, Ga., on Wednesday. A bailiff from Walton County, in which was perpetrated the dastardly lynching of four Negroes last July, had been summoned as a witness to testify before a Federal Grand Jury of what he knew about the quadruple murder. When he saw newspaper reporters talking inside the courthouse to another person connected with the inquiry, he attempted to eject them from the building and, it is declared, shouted: "You get out of here and don't ever come back." Then he turned to a score of witnesses from Walton County and said: "Don't tell them damn newspaper reporters nothing. They just came over here to write a pack of lies."

Suffice it to say that the federal building in Athens is not a crossroads in Walton County. The bailiff was escorted from the corridor where the witnesses were waiting to be called, and a federal official later said the bailiff had no authority and would not be permitted to interfere in any way with the work of the newspaper men.

If one wishes to make any further comment, it is simply that only ignorant people fear the power of truth as expressed by the pages of a responsible newspaper. Newspaper men are fallible and sometimes make mistakes or display errors in judgment, but on the whole they are trying to find out the truth so that they may present it to their readers as they see it. No amount of ungrammatical abuse from a rural bailiff will ever keep the truth secret. If Walton County officials are trying to hide something in this horrible case, they are failing to live up to their oaths of office. If what they have to say and do in the carrying on of their duties cannot be made public, then one begins to understand dimly how such an act could be committed in their county. The processes of the law in Walton County, Georgia, have not been advanced by the words of one of its officials when he showed fear of publicity.

7427

G-Men Tell Grand Jury Of Negro-Lynching Probe

The Courier-Journal

34a

Athens, Ga., Dec. 3 (AP)—A federal grand jury began today the tedious task of sifting evidence which eventually may point responsibility for the lynching of four Negroes in Georgia's infamous massacre of Apalachee Bridge.

Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, who interviewed more than 2,500 persons in the quadruple killing last July 25, sketched the essential facts to the jury. As the F.B.I. agents spoke, a score of witnesses, both white and black, waited in closely guarded rooms for their turn before the jury.

No witnesses were called immediately and the jury recessed at 1 p.m. until 9 a.m. tomorrow after hearing several G-men.

Among those who waited vainly today were Loy Harrison, florid, heavy-set Georgia farmer who told investigators a mob of 20 armed men set upon him at Apalachee Bridge and took two Negroes and their wives to their deaths before a firing squad. Harrison was grimly silent and refused to discuss the case.

Also among the witnesses to be called was one-legged Riden Farmer of Moores Ford Road, in Walton County, whose home was about 1½ miles from the scene of the murder. Farmer said he heard the gunshot volleys which killed the Negroes, but did not investigate. He reported they sounded "like fire in a canebreak."

Mrs. Jesse Warwick, wife of a Methodist minister at Monroe, was expected to tell the grand jury how she saw three cars parked about four miles from Monroe on the evening of the murders, with a group of men standing near them.

Judge Davis told the jury it could not indict for murder in any case it might consider unless the crimes were committed on a Federal Reservation, on the high seas or against a Federal officer performing his duty, UP said.

He did not mention specifically the civil liberties statute under which, it is known, District Attorney J. P. Cowart will seek indictments for the lynching.

Unless the score of FBI special agents uncovered secret evidence linking perpetrators to the crime, one white man stands out as the number one witness—J. Loy Harrison, prosperous Walton County farmer in fhose automobile the Negroes were riding.

Harrison was driving the two Negro couples to his farm when his automobile was intercepted on a deserted road by a gang of 20 white men.

The scene of the brutal shotgun slayings was a remote wooded spot near the Apalachie River in Monroe, Walton County, some 20 miles west of here.

Authorities believed the gang was tipped off that Harrison had the Negroes in his automobile. He had posted $600 bond for the release of one of the victims from jail.

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temporarily

Grand Jury Opens Probe Of Ga. Lynchings

The Times

New York, N.Y.

Tues. 12-3-46

34a

A Federal Grand Jury of two Negroes and 21 white men was instructed yesterday in Atlanta, Ga., by Judge T. Hoyt Davis to be "fair and firm" in an exhaustive probe of last July's lynching of four Negroes in neighboring Walton County, United Press reported.

Judge Davis mentioned the backwoods execution briefly in his general charge as "an occurrence which now is common knowledge."

Only jurors and three newspapermen were allowed in the courtroom during the 25-minute instruction.

HARRISON ON STAND AGAIN

The Times

Georgia Farmer Is Questioned in Deaths of Four Negroes

34a

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATHENS, Ga., Dec. 5—Loy Harrison, Walton County farmer, completed six hours as a witness today before the Federal grand jury investigating the mass lynching of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., July 25. New York, N.Y.

He was the driver of the automobile from which a mob of about twenty armed men allegedly took the Negroes and shot them to death. Fri. 12-6-46

Mr. Harrison was questioned for several hours yesterday and was called back this morning.

In the grand jury chamber were John P. Cowart of Macon, Federal District Attorney for the middle district of Georgia, and John Kelly, special prosecutor from the Department of Justice in Washington.

More than seventy prospective witnesses again milled about the corridors.

Bailiff At Lynch Trial Tries to Eject Reporters

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

34a

Thurs. 12-5-46

Athens, Ga., Dec. 4 (AP)—A Walton County bailiff, summoned as a witness in the federal grand jury probe of a quadruple lynching, attempted to eject newspaper reporters from the U. S. district courthouse today and accused them of coming here to "write a pack of lies."

The bailiff, who identified himself as Ray Flanagan and who was listed by federal officials as an attache of the Walton County sheriff's office, intervened when a rural gunsmith spoke to reporters. Shoving the newspapermen toward the stairs, Flanagan shouted, "You get out of here and don't ever come back!"

Escorted From Corridor.

Then he turned to a score of witnesses from rural Walton County, where the mass lynching occurred last July 25, and said:

"Don't tell them damn newspaper reporters nothing. They just came over here to write a pack of lies."

U. S. officials escorted Flanagan from the third-floor corridor, where witnesses awaited grand jury questioning. A responsible federal spokesman later said the bailiff had no authority and would not be permitted to interfere.

The incident highlighted the second day of the grand jury's investigation.

Principal Witness Quizzed.

Principal witness in the bloody massacre of Apalachee Bridge, stocky, florid Loy Harrison, from whose car four Negroes were taken to their execution, was questioned for more than three and a half hours. There was no indication of the line pursued and Harrison left the courthouse tight-lipped when the grand jury recessed until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Earlier, the jury had questioned briefly another Walton County farmer, Barney Hester, whose stabbing July 14 by one of the victims is believed to have incited the lynching.

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100 Witnesses To Be Called In Mob Killing

The Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Tues. 12-3-46

Two Negroes Sit On Jury Investigating Murder Of Four Last Spring

By ROMNEY WHEELER

ATHENS, GA., Dec. 2.—(AP)—A Federal Grand Jury with two Negro members was impaneled

today and prepared to question nearly 100 witnesses about the brutal lynching of four Negroes last July in nearby Walton County, which shocked the nation.

34a

U. S. District Judge P. Hoyt Davis charged the Grand Jury this morning that "there still might be violation of certain U. S. criminal statutes" even if a major violation falls within the jurisdiction of state courts.

"If this Grand Jury should discover that there has been violation of a law," he said, "and that the type of offense does not fall within jurisdiction of the Federal court, then, as a matter of comity the Grand Jury would be well within bounds of propriety in furnishing evidence to State officials."

FBI Questions 2,500

A score of special FBI agents have questioned some 2,500 residents of Monroe, Ga., and Walton County since the two Negroes and their wives were shotgunned to death last July 25 in a blood-spattered thicket near the Apalachee River.

The foreman of the 23-man Grand Jury is Charles S. Rowe, 5 Comer, Ga., merchant. The jury

identify any of the mobsters.

The victims were Roger Malcolm, released that same day to Harrison's custody pending trial for stabbing a white man; Malcolm's wife, Dorothy; her sister, Mae Dorsey and her husband, George. Montgomery, Ala.

The government's case will be presented the jury by U. S. Dist. Atty. John Cowart, assisted by John Kelly, trial attorney of the criminal division of the Justice Department. Tues. 12-3-46

Turner Smith, chief of the department's civil rights division, said in an interview here recently that "a thin thread of law must tie the case together."

includes 13 farmers, two merchants, two coal dealers, a barber, a cotton gin operator, a banker, a laundry manager, a clerk and a "retired farmer."

34a

The decision to present U. S. government evidence to a Grand Jury came shortly after Gov. Ellis Arnall said the names of several mob members were known but that little evidence could be gathered. Federal and State investigators reported a wall of resentful silence. The Advertiser

Mobsters Unrecognized

The key witness to go before the jury will be Loy Harrison, 50, who reported that a mob of about 20 men stopped his car on the

river bridge eight miles east of Monroe, seized the four Negroes and shot them to death at close range. He said he was unable to

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LYNCHING INQUIRY HEARS 2 FARMERS

The Times

34a

Harrison Tells of Georgia Mob Taking 4 Negroes From Car —Hester Also Testifies

New York, N.Y.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATHENS, Ga., Dec. 4—Loy Harrison, white farmer, the driver of the ambushed automobile from which a mob of about twenty persons seized four Negroes and shot them to death near Monroe in July, went before a Federal grand jury today to give his account of the lynchings.

Mr. Harrison was called after the twenty-one white and two Negro jurors began their second day of inquiry into the killings. More than sixty other subpoenaed witnesses crowded the corridors outside the grand jury chamber, but only Mr. Harrison and one other witness were questioned during the day. The others were told to be on hand again tomorrow.

Questioned frequently by FBI agents, local and State authorities since the slayings, Mr. Harrison has maintained he could not identify members of the mob.

Mr. Harrison was summoned into the grand jury room soon after the jurors questioned Barney Hester, a farmer who was stabbed by one of the lynching victims several days before the shot-gun killings of two Negroes and their wives. Thurs. 12-5-46

Mr. Hester told reporters that he had been in a hospital when the shootings occurred and that all he had been able to tell the grand jury was an account of the incident in which he was stabbed. He was wounded, he said by Roger Malcolm when he tried to stop a quarrel between the Negro and his Malcolm's, wife. Malcolm had been released from jail on bail in Mr. Harrison's custody a short time before the slaying occurred.

Mrs. Jesse Warwick, wife of a Monroe clergyman, who also was subpoenaed as a witness, told reporters that she had seen two or three automobile loads of men gathered on a roadside in the Monroe vicinity between the time Barney Hester was stabbed and the day Roger Malcolm was bailed out of the Walton jail and slain along with the other three Negroes.

A minor incident occurred in the corridor just outside the grand jury room today when a bailiff from Monroe, who identified himself as Ray Flanagan, reportedly ordered newspapermen to "get out and stay out." 12-5-46

"Don't say nothing to these newspaper reporters," the bailiff is said to have admonished the crowd of witnesses. "They are just here to print a bunch of lies."

Aides from the United States marshal's office interviewed and escorted Flanagan to a lower floor. Later they permitted him to return

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Jury Probe May End Friday

The Constitution

In Walton Case

Atlanta, Ga.

By C. W. GILMORE

ATHENS, Dec. 17—(AP)—Three FBI agents who investigated the slaying of four Walton County Negroes last July were called back before a Federal Grand Jury Tuesday along with Powell Adcock, father of a witness who was

indicted Monday for perjury.

U. S. District Attorney John Cowart, still hoping to complete his case by Friday, made no further comment on Monday's development—the first break since the Grand Jury probe began two weeks ago. Wed. 12-18-46

George Alvin Adcock, of Monroe, who was indicted on two counts of perjury, was free to-

day on a $2,000 bond posted by his father.

The indictment, however, did not implicate Adcock with the shotgun slaying near Apalachee bridge in Walton County.

Other witnesses appearing before the Grand Jury Tuesday were George B. Peters, a Monroe furniture dealer; Al Briscoe, a storekeeper; James S. Hanson, a farmer and his two sons, Roy and Horace; James Verner, of Gratis;

and Evelyn Patterson, of Monroe.

The FBI agents were P. V. Richardson, Louis Hutchinson and E. F. Mason.

FBI agents have questioned some 2,500 persons in connection with the killing of the two Negro men and their wives on July 25.

Some 15 or 20 witnesses are still scheduled to appear before the jury.

7428

Negro Youth Group Demands Removal Of Atty. Gen. Clark

Daily Worker

New York, New York

The removal of Attorney General Tom Clark and the reconvening of the Congress to enact anti-lynching legislation were demanded in a letter sent to President Truman by the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

34a

At the same time the Civil Rights Congress demanded that Attorney General Clark make immediate arrests of the perpetrators of the Monroe, Ga., lynchers, presenting to Clark at the same time the results of an investigation by its own investigator on the spot in Georgia.

The letter of the Southern Negro Youth Congress to the President which was signed by Esther Cooper executive secretary of the organization, declared:

"We demand action by your administration for the protection of our lives our property and our constitutional rights."

Citing many instances of dereliction of duty by Attorney General Clark, the letter continued:

"We demand the removal of Texas Tom Clark as U. S. Attorney General and his replacement by a man who will launch immediate proceedings to outlaw the Klan and to bring to justice every person guilty of murder and attacks on Negro citizens."

The letter of the Civil Rights Congress revealed that the deputy sheriff who released Roger Malcolm, one of the Negro lynch victims, from the Walton County Jail was seen **"in the vicinity of the lynching site half an hour following the massacre and one and a half hours before J. Roy Harrison, the sole survivor, gave the alarm."** Sat 8-24-46

This deputy, one Louis Howard, the CRC letter charges, is **the brother-in-law of Barney Hester, Jr., whose alleged stabbing at the hans of Malcolm set in motion the chain of events leading to the lynching."**

"No record of the alleged $600 bond under which the deputy sheriff said he released Malcolm 'could be found even three days after the lynching'," the letter asserted.

Demanding further scrutiny of J. Roy Harrison, Malcolm's landlord the letter points out that **"the short-cut"** he claims to have used in driving the victims to his farm **"turned out in fact to be a longer route than the road he was accustomed to travel."**

Probers to Stay on Monroe Case

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Clark Seeks Solution of Four Ga. Murders

REWARDS FUTILE

Sat. 10-12-46

State Suspends Action, Federal Men 'Wait'

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Attorney General Tom C. Clark has ordered the Federal Bureau of Investigation to continue its investigation of the lynching of four persons two months ago near Monroe, Ga., until the case is solved, it was learned last Friday.

34a Ga.

Despite the absence of results, it was said, the FBI has not reduced the number of agents assigned to the case, and President Truman is receiving periodic reports on the agent's activities.

These were understood to reflect the confidence of J. Edgar Hoover, director of the FBI, in an eventual solution.

Ga. Drops Case

The State of Georgia apparently has suspended all activity in the unsolved lynchings, and the whole responsibility for a solution rests with the FBI.

Rewards totaling $42,000 have failed to overcome the fear of reprisal, and the FBI has been forced to wait for the "heat" to subside.

President Truman directed the Attorney General to use all the resources of the Federal Government to apprehend the lynchers. The FBI is involved in the inquiry only on the theory that Federal rights secured by the Constitution have been violated.

Federal Authority Limited

Proof of a conspiracy or the failure of law enforcement agencies to give proper protection to a prisoner would be the only ground for Federal prosecution.

Actually, the Justice Department has no plan for Federal prosecution if arrests are made, but proposes to turn the lynchers over to the State for trial.

Progress Is Slow in Lynching Probe

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

ATLANTA — Asserting that "police have nothing definite yet" and admitting that "progress is very slow," Georgia's Gov. Ellis Arnall Saturday contradicted a Washington (D.C.) Post story that identity of the mob members was known and that arrests were expected momentarily.

34a Sat.

The Post story quoted an unnamed Georgia official as saying that the FBI had put its finger on at least three of the mob and is tying up threads of other evidence before arresting others who participated in the massacre of four persons at Monroe, Ga., July 25.

The Governor, who said that he had been in constant touch with Federal and State investigators, asserted, "I know nothing of any identifications or arrests. I have been told that investigators are making very slow progress and have nothing definite as yet. However, they are hoping for an early break in the case."

34a Ga.

FBI Declines Comment

John F. Frost, who heads the FBI bureau in Atlanta, as did Department of Justice officials in Washington, declined comment.

The Washington Post story disclosed that two mobs participated in the lynchings, one of them guarding the paved highway to J. Loy Harrison's farm and the other the dirt road, on which Harrison's farm and the four victims were ambushed. The Afro-American

The Second mob did not actually participate in the massacre, the Post said, quoting a Georgia official, but stood ready, should the first mob fail to carry out the planned executions.

Maj. W. E. Spence, who heads the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, along with Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton County, said that they had heard nothing of any identifications or arrests in the cases. Baltimore, Md.

Probe Going Forward

President Truman told his news conference in Washington Friday that investigation of the lynchings was going forward with all possible energy. Sat. 8-17-46

He said he had not received any word from the FBI as to the identification and pending arrests of any of the mob members.

At the time of the lynching Harrison had just posted a bond of $600 for Roger Malcolm on a charge of stabbing a white farmer, Barney Hester, and was taking to his farm, Malcolm, his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Malcolm, and Mr. and Mrs. George Dorsey.

Hester's family, it was later learned, were strong supporters of the Georgia gubernatorial nominee, Eugene Talmadge, and that Talmadge had visited the Hester farm for a conference a day after the stabbing.

Arrests To Hinge on True Bills

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

Tues. 10-29-46

U. S. Atty. Gen. Tom Clark last night announced in New York he had ordered a Federal Grand Jury investigation into the lynching of four Negroes at Monroe last July 25.

34a

After Clark's announcement, John P. Cowart, U. S. Attorney of Georgia's Middle District, revealed in Macon he would ask a Grand Jury meeting in Athens to return indictments in the case.

Ga.

The number of persons to be arrested will depend upon the number of persons the Grand Jury decided to indict, Cowart said, adding that no arrests have been made to date.

Cowart said he did not anticipate any arrests before the Grand Jury convenes the last week in November or the first week in December. Court convenes Dec. 2. The persons whose indictments he will demand do not know action is planned against them unless they know they are guilty, he said.

Cowart said he understood that Department of Justice officials would come from Washington to help him present the case. He said he was unable to say how many witnesses would be called upon to testify, but in New York, Clark reported that over 2,500 witnesses had been questioned in the case by the FBI.

Charles E. Weeks, Special Agent in charge of the New Orleans FBI office, now assigned to a special FBI unit with Monroe headquarters, yesterday refused comment as to whether agents had completed their long-concentrated investigation of the lynchings.

"We're in the same position we've held all along," Weeks said. "Any announcement of breaking up of this unit must come from FBI headquarters in Washington."

Both Weeks and Edwin J. Foltz, Special Agent in charge of the Atlanta FBI office, were in conference with Caudle and Cowart here Oct. 17.

Maj. W. E. Spence, Director of Georgia's Department of Public Safety, who initiated investigation of the lynchings the day following their occurrence, commented here last night:

"I've always maintained that the case would break and I still think it will."

"I believe the Grand Jury procedure will be beneficial in showing people what has been going on."

Spence said he had been in constant touch with the investigation conducted by the FBI but withheld comment on Atty. Gen. Clark's announcement.

The lynchings followed the stabbing of Barney Hester, a white farmer. His alleged attacker, Roger Malcolm, was released from jail after Loy Harrison, Walton County farmer, posted a $600 bond for him. Harrison, Malcolm and his wife, and another Negro couple were in Harrison's car when it was halted by an armed mob near the bridge. The four Negroes were taken from the car and shot while Harrison stood helplessly by. Harrison later told Georgia police that he could not identify any of the band, none of which was masked.

Clark made his announcement in an address before the New York Herald Tribune Forum after tracing recent moves by the Justice Department to fight mob violence. He said that despite legal handicaps there had been 309 investigations involving liberties since he became Attorney General 16 months ago. He said 23 cases had been prosecuted and in six, involving 10 dewendents, there already had been convictions. Eight were acquitted and nine await trial. The Constitution

34a Ga.

The Federal Government's jurisdiction in lynching cases "depends upon a thin thread of law" he said, adding:

"I am sorry to say there is no field of law in which the Federal Government is expected to do so much with so little. The Federal statutes give me the power to prosecute only when a person has been deprived of fedeally-secured rights. The right of life, liberty and property, the Supreme Court of the United States has repeatedly held, is not a Fedarally-secured right. Atlanta, Ga.

Clark emphasized what he called "the horror that results when mob violence takes over when lynch law replaces due process and when irresponsible persons set themselves up as the judge, the pury, the prosecutor and the executioner."

"There are those who say I should devote more time to acting and less to legalities—unless there is an unwillingness to act. Those who say that know there is a genuine desire to act but I shall not be bulldozed into acting extra-legal. That is the Fascist way—the Communistic way," Clark said.

"The average colored citizen of America is a good citizen and deserves better treatment in the hands of a democracy, but Communism is not the answer and Communistic leadership will not cure it. Tues. 10-29-46

"The average colored citizen is too intelligent and too good an American to follow the leadership of those who pay lip service to democracy but would bring the slavery, the purges, the atheisms of Communism upon our people.

"The average colored citizen is proud of his Americanism and I say to you that there are no better Americans and few who have contributed as much to the upbuilding of this country of ours."

ONLY STATES HAVE RIGHTS—PEOPLE DON'T

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 2. — Attorney General Tom Clark yesterday advanced the ancient "states rights" alibi to excuse his department's failure to do anything about lynching and the denial of civil liberties to the Negro people. Thurs.

34a Ga.

Addressing the Commonwealth club here, Clark admitted that the Justice Department received 2,698 complaints from state officials, individuals and organizations, during the first half of 1946 about violations of civil liberties. But he said he could do nothing about these complaints because the federal government has "no jurisdiction and no legal business in the case." Thurs.

Referring to the Georgia lynchings and the murder of Negroes in Columbia, Tenn., Clark said he could do nothing about it because this problem was under state jurisdiction. Speaking in the same city a day before, J. Edgar Hoover, subordinate of Clark, declared that the FBI lacked no jurisdiction in combatting liberals, churches, and labor groups which he said were contaminated by communism. 10-3-46

Walton Slaying Case To Go Before Jury

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
October 29, 1946

No Arrests Regarded as Probable Until Athens Body Has Returned Indictments

Evidence in the FBI's exhaustive three-month investigation of the slaying of four Negroes in Walton County will be presented to a federal grand jury in Athens about the first of December, U. S. District Attorney John P. Cowart announced Tuesday in Macon.

Mr. Cowart confirmed a statement made Monday night in New York by U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark that he had ordered a grand jury hearing in the July 25 killing of two men and their wives.

Exact date on which the grand jury will convene has not been set, Mr. Cowart told The Journal Tuesday, but normally that body meets the last week in November or the first week in December. The district attorney recommends the date to the presiding judge.

Presumably, Mr. Cowart said, the grand jury will convene shortly before the regular term of Federal Court in the Athens division on December 2.

No arrests have been made yet, and none is probable before the grand jury convenes and issues its indictments, according to Mr. Cowart. It is expected that the suspected parties will be arrested on bench warrants issued by the clerk of the court after their indictment, he added.

New York Address

Attorney General Clark mentioned the Georgia killing prominently in an address before the New York Herald Tribune Forum, emphasizing:

"I am hopeful it (the grand jury) will be able to put the finger on those dastardly conspirators who committed this brutal crime."

Mr. Clark said that more than 2,500 witnesses have been interrogated since President Truman personally ordered the investigation of the killings on a deserted road.

Near the scene of the crime in Monroe, Charles E. Weeks, special agent in charge of the New Orleans FBI, now assigned to the probe, declined to say whether agents had completed their investigation. Any announcement, he said, would have to come from Washington.

A spokesman for the Department of Justice in Washington told The Journal that the FBI had not been pulled off the case, and that the Federal investigation would continue indefinitely.

Sheriff E. S. Gordon, of Walton [illegible] The Journal that no arrests have been made, so far as he knew. "And I think I'd know about them, being sheriff of this county," he added. He is continuing to co-operate with the FBI, he said.

Spence Hopeful

Major W. E. Spence, director of the Georgia Department of Public Safety, whose patrolmen have been working with the FBI on the case, said he always had believed "the case will break . . . The grand jury procedure will be beneficial in showing people what has been going on." He declined to elaborate.

The four Negroes, accompanied by a white farmer, Loy Harrison, were waylaid on a secluded northeast Georgia road by a band of armed white men.

Mr. Harrison told authorities that the men held him at gunpoint while they shot the Negroes to death. One of the victims, Roger Malcolm, had just been released from jail under bond on charges of stabbing his employer. The other Negroes were Malcolm's wife, George Dorsey and Dorsey's wife.

In his New York speech, Mr. Clark said the Federal Government's jurisdiction in "lynching cases depends upon a thin thread of law."

He added: "I am sorry to say there is no field of law in which the Federal Government is expected to do so much with so little. The federal statutes give me the power to prosecute only when a person has been deprived of federally secured rights. The rights of life, liberty and property, the Supreme Court of the United States has repeatedly held, are not federally secured rights.

"Despite these legal handicaps there have been 309 separate investigations involving civil liberties since I became your attorney general 16 months ago. Twenty-three cases have been prosecuted—an average of one each three weeks. Six cases, involving 10 defendants, have resulted in convictions—eight in acquittals, and nine stand ready for trial."

Mr. Clark emphasized what he called "The horror that results when mob violence takes over."

Citizenship Tribute

He also paid tribute to the Negro race. "The average colored citizen of America is a good citizene and deserves better treatment in the hands of a democracy, but communism is not the answer and communistic leadership will not cure it.

"The average colored citizen is too intelligent and too good an American to follow the leadership of those who pay lip service to democracy but would bring the slavery, the purges, the atheisms of communism upon our people.

"The average colored citizen is proud of his Americanism and I say to you that there are no better Americans and few who have contributed as much to the upbuilding of this country of ours."

Approval of the investigation came from Governor Ellis Arnall, who declared in Milwaukee: "I am delighted that positive action is about to develop in the courts. Each member of the mob deserves the electric chair. As Governor of the state, I express appreciation to Attorney General Tom Clark and the Federal authorities for their co-operation in the case."

JUDGE LYNCH GOES TO TRIAL

The Times New York, N.Y.

Last July a shameful crime was committed on a lonely road outside of Monroe, Ga. A mob of twenty white men halted the car of a white farmer taking two Negro workers and their wives to his farm. One of the Negroes was out on bond, accused of having stabbed his former employer. The other was a veteran of the war in the Pacific, accused of nothing. One of the women cried out that she recognized a member of the mob. While the white farmer was held at gun-point all four Negroes, men and women, were dragged from the car and shot to death under a hail of sixty bullets.

Wed. 10-30-46

The ferocity of this crime shocked the nation. Yet from that day to this apparently nothing was done about it. The killers, members of a close-mouthed community, are free. The President, however, did order an investigation by the FBI under the Civil Rights section of the Federal law. Now Attorney General Clark announces that his agents have interviewed 2,500 persons in connection with the case, that they have accumulated considerable evidence, and that this evidence will be presented to a Federal grand jury. He hopes "to put the finger on these dastardly conspirators."

There is no Federal anti-lynching law. The Supreme Court has repeatedly reserved the rights of life, liberty and property to the jurisdiction of the States. The Government can reach lynchers only by a circuitous route on what the Attorney General calls "a thin thread of law." Therefore he is cautious on what the Government can accomplish in the present case. But a great deal will be accomplished if the evidence gathered against these murderers is made public in a Federal court room. Their masks will be torn off. Then belated justice should march forward to retribution. So great a wrong to the nation can be atoned only in the State which permitted it to happen.

Monroe Probe Lags As Talmadge Rises To Power

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-14-46

ATLANTA—The ominous influence of Eugene Talmadge looms as a behind the scenes factor in the whitewash of the Monroe lynchings, as FBI and GBI efforts to solve the case became more and more ineffective each week.

Before Justice Department and Georgia Bureau of Investigation agents were able to hide behind the smokescreen of equally fiendish atrocities in other states, reports promised arrests within a few days of the crime. It was made known that several suspects were under surveillance in a two county manhunt, but that arrests were being held off until the whole mob could be rounded up.

Whitewash Reveals Itself

Bolstered by the clamor of public opinion, even embittered observers of Southern justice felt that action might be taken. After it was discovered that bullets from the murder weapons, conclusive evidence in any court, were "stolen" from the scene of the crime, the real purpose of the investigations began to reveal itself.

In the early stages of the investigation Atty. Gen. Tom Clark promised weekly "progress reports" until the case was solved. The few reports that were issued never dealt with why one of the victims, charged with assault with intent to kill, was released on the small bond of $600, or why he was not released until near dark when his bond was posted early in the day. No explanation has ever been given for the lapse of memory of ex-convict J. Loy Harrison, the man from whom the victims were "taken." In fact after public opinion shifted westward to lynchings and riots in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, no information has been released on the case.

The case has been shoved further and further into the back of the public mind by more terror, inflation threats, and war scares, which even though appearing under different newspaper headlines, all have a common connection with the growth of fascism in America.

Influence Dominates State

The Talmadge shadow darkens the largest and the smallest aspects of Georgia life. It even looms over the graves of Roger Malcolm, George Dorsey and their wives. It was known that the red gallused fuehrer visited the father of Barney Hester, the man whose stabbing precipitated the Monroe murders, a few days before the crime. He then left for a vacation in the west, and the murders took place on a smoothly erranged schedule.

Little Chance for Defeat

Liberal movements to declare the unit voting system by which he won the gubernatorial nomination unconstitutional have little hope of success. An independent candidate would have to overcome party loyalties, and the reactionary vote that went to Rivers and O'Kelly, but which would certainly go to Talmadge in a run-off election. So old Gene and his less apparent son, Herman, are free now to look forward to 1950 and to 1954.

Two main factors dominate Talmadge's plan for power. His son, who is liked by his followers, can maintain the Talmadge name and the Talmadge philosophy in public office. Klansmen, Talmadge's brothers, and at the same time his tools, will be given control of strategic offices, and the mechanism for permanent control will be complete. Then what lies ahead? Even the presidency may be envisioned in the warped ambitions of the Georgia demagogue.

One thing Gene may not have accounted for is the temper of the people. His well oiled machine may not be able to deal with the unsung Arnalls who voted against him in July. He also may not be able to crush the trade union movement which is gaining new life and direction through the CIO and AF of L organizing drives.

Grand Jury Opens Probe Of Monroe Murders Dec. 2

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 11-16-46
34a

MACON Ga.—Climaxing a three-month probe by FBI and Georgia authorities, a federal grand jury will convene Dec. 2 at Athens to investigate the brutal July slayings near Monroe of two tenant farmers and their young wives by a race-mad mob of hidden gangsters.

U. S. Atty. John Cowart announced last week the date on which the grand jury will hear testimony against 15 to 17 suspects from whose ranks liberal Gov. Ellis Arnall has promised convictions for the murders.

The jury will probe the killing and fearsome mutilation by gunshot of Roger Malcolm and his wife, Dorothy and George Dorsey and his wife, Mae, ambushed as they drove in the car of a white man toward promised jobs on a farm. One of the young tenant farmers was a veteran of four years overseas service.

Justice Takes Note Of An Inhuman Crime

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

TWO heartening facts shine out of Attorney General CLARK'S announcement that the Monroe, Ga., lynchings will be placed before a Federal Grand jury.

Wed. 10-30-46

One is that the Department of Justice, under Mr. CLARK, has taken seriously this sub-human assault on four defenseless persons. The other is that the Department has found real evidence of the guilty mob—evidence enough to warrant submission to a Federal Grand jury.

But there are some dark facts too. The first, of course, is inherent in the lynchings themselves. It is that local law enforcement agencies where the crimes were done are unwilling or somehow unable to bring justice. If they had been, there would have been no lynchings. The second is that the Federal Government, in such a case of local law enforcement breakdown, must resort to a righteous subterfuge.

There is no Federal anti-lynching law. The Federal Government cannot even try the mob members for murder, of which they certainly are guilty. The basis of action must be a case of conspiracy or infringement of civil liberties. Of course it would be hard to contrive anything contributing less to a man's life, liberty and pursuit of happiness than lynching when the fact is that murder has been done.

him. But it is a circuitous trip around the stump.

7429

FBI Interested In Lynch Scene; Governor Arnall Returns Rewards

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

8-6-46

34a

In an effort to uncover more tangible evidence in their probe of the Walton County lynching, FBI and GBI investigators are making a careful study of the massive pine trees on the bank of the Apalachee River.

It so happens that as the mobsters pumped the volley a clase-range fire into the bodies of the victims, several bullets became imbedded in the trunks of the trees nearby.

Ga.

BULLETS CUT OUT

Over the past weekend it was disclosed that the investigators were primarily interested in the trees, because the bullets had been cut out in several instances, and four rudely-shaped crosses were discovered to have been carved in the trunks of other trees near the scene of the lynching.

Without commenting on the significance attached to the missing bullets or the crosses, the investigators called in newsmen and asked them if they had removed the slugs from the trees. Tuesday

OPEN HEADQUARTERS

While the FBI has set up field headquarters at the Monroe, Hotel, reporters were unable to determine the exact number of G-men working on the case, but Major William E. Spence, head of the GBI stated that seven members of his staff are working cooperatively with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

As the investigators go forward with their probe, Marshall Pollock, solicitor general of the western circuit, stated that in his opinion, the Federal Government did not have authority in the slayings because no federal law providing for FBI investigation had been violated.

RETURNS REWARDS

Governor Ellis Arnall disclosed Monday that reward offers in connection with the slayings had been received from individuals and organizations throughout the country. These rewards range from $50 to $1,000, the Governor indicated.

He further explained that all cash and checks were being returned and the donors were being informed that he would post notices of the total amount of money offered.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Memorial services for the lynch victims in Georgia and Mississippi were held Monday night at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, under the auspices of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

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of 1004 Westmoor Drive, where they will spend a two week's vacation visiting relatives and friends in New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore, Md. While in New York they will reside at the Theresa Hotel and on their return, they will be the house guests of Miss Francis Murphy, II, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Murphy. Mr Murphy is the president of The Afro-American Publishing Company.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 9, 1946

Officers Foresee No Early Break In Lynch Case

State and federal officers said Friday they saw no early break in the Walton County lynching despite the Washington, D. C. Post's story quoting an unidentified Georgia official to the effect that three members of the mob have been identified.

34a

Although the officers possibly have arrived at definite suspicion as to the killer of the four Negroes in Walton, they indicated they lacked sufficient evidence to make an arrest.

Ga.

Both state and Walton investigators said they knew of no member of the mob being identified.

Governor Ellis Arnall Friday denied all knowledge of a report in Washington that three members o fthe mob had been identified but not arrested.

"I know nothing of any identifications or arrests in the Walton County cases," Governor Arnall said. "I have been in constant check with federal and state investigators working on the lynchings, and they tell me they are making very slow progress and have nothing definite as yet. However, they are hoping for an early break in the case."

In so far as it could be ascertained at the State Capitol, Assistant Attorney General Dan Duke, who was en route to New York on the Ku Klux Klan case, was the only Georgia official in Washington Thursday. He has not had any part in the Monroe investigation.

John Trost, special agent in charge of the Atlanta Federal Bureau of Investigation office, who has been in personal charge of the Walton County investigation, said he had "no comment."

Major W. E. Spence, state public safety director, who heads six Georgia Bureau of Investigation men investigating the lynching, said he had no knowledge of any arrest.

No Arrests Yet

Sheriff E. S. Gordon, of Walton County, declared he had heard nothing of new developments in the case and said that, so far as he knows, no arrests have been made.

The Post identified its source of information only as "a Georgia official" and stated that evidence leading to a roundup of the entire mob soon would be laid before Attorney General Tom Clark and Governor Ellis Arnall.

The Washington Post story said:

"Evidence leading to a complete roundup of the mob which participated in the lynching will soon be laid before Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia and Attorney General Tom Clark in Washington.

"A state official in Georgia disclosed that not one but two mobs were involved in the lynch attempt.

"The second group was guarding another road which the farm hands and their wives, later slain, could have traveled. That group did not participate in the actual killing, the official said. The group, however, was prepared to act if the other mob had not stopped the Negroes.

Complete Probe

"Within a few hours after the murders were reported, Attorney General Clark ordered the FBI to make a complete investigation.

"Washington FBI officials and the head of the Atlanta office of the FBI, John R. Tost, declined last night to comment.

"Major W. E. Spence, head of the Georgia state police, was reached by telephone in Atlanta just after he had returned from Monroe, Ga., scene of the brutal killings.

"'We're still working on the case,' Spence declared, 'and son far as I know no arrests have been made.'

"Another state official, who asked not to be quoted, said that the FBI had put its finger on at least three of the gang and is tying up the threads of other evidence before making arrests of the entire lynch mob."

Meanwhile, Dan Duke, assistant attorney general of Georgia, was conferring with officials in Trenton, N. J., in an attempt to discover possible links between the Ku Klux Klan and the German-American Bund.

Talks between Mr. Duke and New Jersey Attorney General Walter D. Van Riper were said to be concerned with reported meetings of members of the two organizations just prior to World War II.

In Macon, Ga., Assistant United States District Attorney Jack Gautier said the district attorney's office had no information of the identification or arrest of any members of the mob.

Charlotte, N. C., Observer
Aug. 8, 1946

As To "Mob Rule."

To The Observer:

I notice from the press that President Truman "abhors mob rule," and has ordered a full probe by Federal authorities of the Georgia lynching case.

34a

I also notice in The Observer of August 1 under "National Whirligig" that Truman, as President, has pardoned 22 vote thieves, a small part of the Pendergast gang which in its heyday constituted one of the biggest mobs that ever terrorized a people. This happened in Mr. Truman's home state, Missouri. One of his first acts on entering the White House was to request the resignation of U. S. District Attorney Milligan, who busted the Pendergast ring.

J. L. WALGER.

St. Pauls, N. C.

Arnall Predicts Quick Justice For Walton Mob

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Fri. 11-8-46

When brought to justice, the mob which lynched four Negroes in Walton County will be "convicted quicker in Georgia than anywhere in the nation because our people are resentful of crimes committted by a few," Gov. Arnall declared yesterday.

34a

The Governor said he welcomed Federal investigation in the case and commented: "Sooner or later it is inevitable that there will be conviction in the lynchings." He explained the difficulty lies in obtaining sufficient evidence necessary to convict them.

When sufficient evidence is obtained, the guilty persons will be convicted, he added, because the great majority of Georgians resent the bad name given to the State by a "bunch of thugs."

Gov. Arnall recently returned from a lecture tour in the North and Midwest and during his trip conferred with Atty. Gen. Tom Clark. A Federal Grand Jury soon will study the evidence obtained by the FBI and State investigators in the massacre.

Christians Can Do No Less

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

The Atlanta Christian Council speaks for every faith when it urges that investigation of the wanton murder of four Walton County Negroes be continued until the slayers are apprehended.

34a

"The Atlanta Christian Council notes with encouragement statements in the press from State and Federal authorities indicating that the investigation to apprehend the guilty parties in the lynching of four Negroes in Walton County last July will be continued," reads a resolution passed by the Council at a meeting here this week. "It is our considered opinion that this tragic manifestation of lawlessness deserves the united effort of all good citizens in re-establishing respect for the law and Christian regard for human life. Pledging anew our co-operation in upholding the hands of those who are in authority, and the assurance of our prayers that liberty shall not perish from the earth, we heartily commend the effort of County, State and Federal officials in seeking to enforce the law in this and all situations that endanger the common welfare."

Ga.

Sooner or later a break will come.

The type of person who engages in such outrages cannot be trusted, even by one another. Inevitably, one or several of them will disclose—inadvertently or otherwise—the identity of his fellow-lynchers. Once one is caught, the rest will be easy, rats having a positive penchant for squealing. Sun. 10-27-46

Until such time as a break does come, God-fearing people can merely continue their firm resolve to investigate relentlessly until criminology or conscience brings the guilty to the bar of justice.

Sparta, Ga., Ishmaelite
Aug. 1, 1946

Progress Indicated In Mass Lynching Case

MONROE, July 30—Maj. William E. Spence of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, conducting the probe into the mass slaying of four Negroes here last week by a band of white men, indicated today he is making progress in solving the case.

34a

"The mystery is being unravelled," he said, but declined comment on reports he had found one man who knew most of the details and was willing to talk.

Ga.

The FBI also is helping in the investigation.

In Washington, White House Press Secretary Charles G. Ross told a news conference President Truman has taken no direct hand in the lynching investigation.

A group of Negroes protesting the slayings was received by David K. Niles, Presidential Administrative Assistant, after they paraded to focus attention on the incident. They were headed by Prof. Max Yeargan, President of the National Negro Congress.

The Courier Pittsburgh Pa. Sat 8-24-46

WAGING WAR ON KU KLUX KLAN—Georgia's fighting Assistant Attorney General, Daniel Duke (left), poses with James Edmund Boyack of the New York-Pittsburgh Courier. Between them is a Ku Klux Klan mask. Picture was made during a press conference. Mr. Duke, who is waging an all-out war on the Klan in his State, said the KKK is carrying on where the Nazi storm troops left off.

State to Prosecute:

The Courier

FBI Steps Up Lynch Probe; Georgia 'Waits'

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 8-24-46

34a

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N!

ATLANTA, Ga.—Speculation is rife over the reason for the sudden resignation of John Trost, head of the FBI office here, to enter private business. Trost took personal charge of the Monroe lynching on orders of U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark. Speculation concerns whether his retirement is connected with the lynch probe.

MONROE, Ga.—While Georgia Bureau of Investigation agents are "waiting for interest to die down," Federal agents here last week stepped up their investigation of the lynching of four Negroes July 25 by the mob of approximately twenty unmasked white men.

Although the FBI is operating in its usual manner of secrecy and hush-hush, there has been no indication of progress made by them in the identification of the twenty mobsters who murdered the two men and two women victims. Between fifteen and twenty Federal agents are in this city and have practically taken over the only hotel in town.

STATE PENALTY STRONGER

It has been pointed out that if and when the members of the mob have been identified and arrested, the State of Georgia will prosecute them, and not the Federal Government. Under State law they can be prosecuted for murder. Under the Federal statute they can [illegible] the dead persons' civil rights.

A life sentence may be the penalty under State law while under the Federal statute the maximum penalty is ten years in prison, a fine of $5,000 or both.

C. E. Weeks, FBI agent in charge of the probe, said last week that: "The first thing we're trying to overcome is local suspicion and mistrust of us 'furriners'." The State of Georgia has only one of its twelve agents on the scene. Major William Spence of the State bureau, summed up the State's attitude by saying:

The Courier

"We want public interest to die down. It is better that way. We can get more information if the folks are not stirred up." Significantly enough Atlanta papers have not mentioned the crime for several days; Monroe remains close-mouthed and there is no apparent sign of high feeling against Negroes in the community.

34a

In case of the mobsters' apprehension, District Solicitor B. Marshall Pollock stated that murder charges will be placed before a Walton County Grand Jury and FBI agents, who are most active in the investigation would be witnesses.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

It is also pointed out that Governor Arnall has not asked Attorney General Eugene Cook to take a hand in the inquiry, but has confined his activity to posting $500 rewards for each of the mob members arrested and convicted.

FBI efforts are reported to be concentrated upon learning the identity of the tipster who informed mob leaders that one of the murdered men, Roger Malcom, was being released from jail, where he had been held on a charge of stabbing the son of his white farmer-employer.

Sat. 8-24-46

Odds Even G-Men to Solve Ga. Lynchings

The Courier

Sheriff Doubts Solution; Agents Question Hundreds

Pittsburgh, Pa

By Special Correspondent

Sat. 9-21-46

34a

MONROE, Ga.—Somewhere in the rolling, fertile hills of Walton or neighboring counties, fear is hanging heavily over the heads of approximately twenty white men—members of the mob which ruthlessly shot to death four Negroes—two men and two women—in a secluded, wooded spot about twelve miles from here late in the afternoon of July 25.

Names of the men and their addresses are not definitely known—at least, not publicly—but here is a small army of Federal Bureau of Investigation Agents at work in the relentless effort to ferret out the information and bring the mobsters to justice.

NUMBER OF FBI UNKNOWN

The exact number of FBI men at work on the case, which raised a tremendous hue and cry throughout the Nation and brought the glare of terrific unfavorable publicity on this progressive little city more than a month and a half ago, is not publicly known.

C. E. Weeks, special agent in charge of the New Orleans FBI office, who is heading the probe, declined to reveal the number of men at work, but he did admit "several are here."

Prospective guests at the Monroe Hotel, lone hostelry in the town, are learning to their sorrow, day after day, that the agents are here in numbers. The sleuths, together with the regular residents, occupy all but two of the hotel's rooms, making it necessary for most would-be visitors to go on to Athens or Winder for accommodations.

ESTIMATE APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-SIX

Residents of Monroe are a little more talkative on the subject of the agents, even though the accuracy of their statements cannot be completely verified.

Estimates of the number of agents range from twenty to thirty, but Sheriff E. S. Gordon, who is in conference with the Federal men from time to time, places the total at between "twenty-three and twenty-six." In addition, at least four secretaries are on hand to aid with reports and other paper work resulting from the intensive probe.

The Courier

Although Agent Weeks declined any comment whatever on the probe, it is obvious on the surface that the FBI has no intention of quitting this area until the slayings of Roger Malcolm, his wife, Dorothy, her brother, George Dorsey, and his wife, Mary, are solved.

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Evidence of this is seen in queries put to some local residents by the agents as to "what is there to do in this town during the Christmas season."

Any attempt to keep a close check on the activities of the Federal men would resemble efforts to follow with the human eye the unpredictable leaps of twenty-six fleas.

Pittsburgh Pa.

WORKING NIGHT AND DAY

They come and go in and out of hotel headquarters at all hours of the day and night. Once in a while, all are in conference at the hotel at the same time, but most of the reports of progress and activities are made by small, separate groups.

Sat. 9-21-46

Hundreds of residents of Walton and surrounding counties have been questioned intensively by various agents. Numerous homes have been visited, many pictures of individuals and sites have been made.

On every hand evidence of the active, relentless investigation is seen. Yet, the secrecy with which the agents are moving, covers the entire scene in a shroud which hides any tangible results made to date.

The betting odds on whether or not the Federal men will be able to solve the case are about even as far as townspeople are concerned.

Many believe the G-men already know the identity of some members of the mob and are delaying placing them in custody until they can take the entire group.

OPINION DIVIDED

Other are equally as confident the Government representatives have made little or no progress toward establishing identity of the cold-blooded slayers.

Mayor E. L. Almand Sr. is among those who believe the G-men will come up with the solution.

"No one in Monroe and Walton County," he said, "makes any pretense of defense for the atrocity of July 25, committed within our county's limits. We do not condone the crime; we earnestly hope for the speedy arrest and dealing of justice to the assailants.

"I firmly believe the FBI agents, who are working so diligently on the case, will eventually solve it and bring the vicious slayers to the Bar of Justice."

On the other hand, Sheriff Gordon who called members of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation into the case the morning following the massacre, and then withdrew himself and his department completely from the probe two days later, is of the opinion the FBI will never track down the killers.

SHERIFF DOUBTS SOLUTION

"Nope," he asserted, "I don't believe they will ever get at the bottom of the case unless they change their way of investigating. They're just running all over the country now questioning a bunch of people who don't know nothing in the world about the case.

"Personally, I don't believe any of the mob members came from Walton County. I think they came from another county, did their work and went back to their home county. I just don't believe the Federal men are going to find out who did it until they start questioning some of the riff-raff in some of the neighboring counties."

Practically everyone here shares Sheriff Gordon's belief the mob was composed of residents of other counties. Most think the slayers came from O'Conee County.

They point out that the crime occurred virtually on the line separating Monroe and O'Conee Counties. If the mob had formed on the opposite side of the Apalachee River to stop the car of Loy Harrison, prominent O'Conee County white planter, in which the victims were riding, the massacre would have occurred in O'Conee County.

RURAL COUNTY

They also point out O'Conee is a strictly rural county with a population of less than 8,000, and whose principal town has only a few hundred residents; that it is rated among the State's unprogressive, stagnated counties, where ignorance and poverty prevail.

On the other hand, they say, Walton is ranked as one of the most progressive counties in the State. Although its principal industry is agriculture, virtually all residents—white and Negro—are better off financially and are far better educated.

Those who are firmly convinced the case will be solved are banking their opinions on two major factors:

First, they point to the record members of the FBI have established in past years in ferreting out the truth in crimes in all sections of the Nation. There are few unsolved crimes on the G-men's books.

Second, the huge reward which have been posted for apprehension of the vicious killers is a definite asset. A grand total of $50,000 has been made up for the man or men who can break the case and convict all members of the mob.

CITE REWARD INCENTIVE

Somewhere, sometime, these people believe, someone is going to run across a bit of information that will start unraveling the secrecy shrouding the identity of the slayers and the prospect of sharing in the huge reward is going to make that person—or group of persons—forget fear of retaliatory action by the mob members, and the data is going into the hands of the Federal agents.

There is a distinct possibility that some bit of information already has been provided.

There is a distinct possibility that the covering of secrecy is being unraveled.

There is a distinct possibility that the desire for that huge reward has already started the long arm of the law reaching toward the culprits.

MOB UNDER FEAR

That is the reason the mob members are harried day and night by that nagging, gnawing fear any man in their position would be suffering.

Those mobsters would pay heavily to get the FBI out of Monroe.

They would pay heavily to find out how much the Federal agents know; how much they have unearthed in their probe.

They won't find out, though, until it is too late, because the FBI is working, not talking.

34a 1946

Georgia(Investigation)

7430

full

Arnall, Talmadge Prod Lynch Probe

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
July 30, 1946

By LARRY DALE

MONROE, Ga., July 29 (UP)—Stating that "civilization is incensed over this atrocity," Gov. Ellis Arnall today exhorted state agents working with the FBI to redouble their efforts to ferret out the desperadoes who lynched four Negroes in Walton County near Monroe last Thursday.

Gov.-Designate Eugene Talmadge, back from a California vacation, sympathized with Arnall's "chagrin and embarrassment" over the lynching and predicted that such crimes would be at a minimum during his own forthcoming administration.

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Makes Statement

In a statement on returning to his Atlanta law offices, Talmadge said it was regrettable when mob violence "occurs in any section of the country." He added that "there was a great deal of mob violence in Detroit, Chicago and other parts of the country during the past few years."

"The people of Georgia always sympathized with other sections when such occurences happened and the better-thinking people of Georgia knew that it was not a reflection on the state or the people of the state but only on the individuals who committed the crime," Talmadge said.

Arnall pointed out that the FBI, now had six men working on the lynching, apparently moving in on the grounds that civil rights were violated in the drum-head execution of two Negro field hands and their wives.

Hints Identities Suspected

Maj. W. E. Spence of the State Bureau of Investigation reporting that the case was being "unraveled," hinted that identity of some of the 20 or more men in the lynching party was strongly suspected. He indicated that he was searching for sufficient evidence to warrant arrests but denied reports that any persons had yet been taken into custody and formally charged.

Negroes Ask Murder Charge For Gene, Bilbo

WASHINGTON, July 29 (UP)—A Negro delegation today demanded that the Justice Department bring charges of "incitement to murder" against Sen. Theodore Bilbo, (D., Miss.) and Governor-Elect Eugene Talmadge of Georgia.

34a

The demand was presented to Acting Attorney General John F. Sonnett by Dr. Max Yergan of New York City, a leader in the National Negro Congress and spokesman for the delegation.

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The delegation made the demands against Bilbo and Talmadge when it went to the Justice Department to urge vigorous federal efforts in identifying and prosecuting the white men who lynched four Negroes near Monoe, Ga., last week.

The visit to the Justice Department followed a parade of nearly 000 Negroes down Constitution venue in a mass protest against he lynching.

The delegation also went to the Vhite House to ask that President ruman send federal troops into eorgia to prevent a recurrence.

Yergan presented to Sonnett a esolution adopted at yesterday's orrence Brooks Square mass neeting in New York City's Har em district.

The resolution said in part that he lynchings were a "direct result of the campaign of race hatred and 'white supremacy' propaganda deliberately carried on by Sen. Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi and Governor-Elect Eugene Talmadge of Georgia.

It added:

"Bilbo and Talmadge are as guilty of these murders as if they were on the scene with smoking guns in their hands. They purposely inspired and encouraged this lynching terror against the Negro people. They should be punished."

Columbia, S. C., State
Aug. 4, 1946

G-Men Making Thorough Probe of Ga. Lynching

Monroe, Ga., Ga., Aug. 3—(AP)—The investigation of the lynching of four Negroes near here a week ago has settled down to a methodical check by federal agents of the movements of persons in the community on the day of the incident.

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The G-men have set up headquarters in the hotel here. They will not reveal how many agents are working on the case.

The federal men said that bullets from the guns of the lynchers had been cut from trees at the scene of the shooting, but they would not elaborate on the significance of this.

Reticence at Monroe Stalls Investigation, GBI Chief Declares

Constitution, Atlanta Ga.

Sun. 7-28-46

MONROE, July 27—(AP)—The head of the Georgia State Police told newsmen Saturday "we just can't cope" with the local situation in the investigation of the massacre of four Negroes near here Thursday.

34a

"The best people in town won't talk about this," the police head, Maj. William E. Spence, said. "They have an idea who it is.

"When I get back to town (Atlanta) I'm going to ask the Governor to appeal to every Congressman to help pass Federal legislation against mob violence."

SUSPECT RELEASED

Maj. Spence met newsmen shortly after the release of a man who he said fitted the description of the leader of the armed band which waylaid J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer, and the Negroes on the banks of the Appalachee River.

Spence said Harrison failed to identify the man and said the leader of the mob was "20 pounds heavier." Sun. 7-28-46

The State Police leader said he had several other leads, but added that he was getting no co-operation from local authorities.

"We've been out on things like this before, but never anything like this," Spence said.

Shortly after the shooting was made public Friday, agents of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation went into the county to seek the men who committed the act.

STATE OFFERS $10,000

To spur the investigation, Gov. Arnall summoned newsmen to his office in Atlanta and announced that he was offering on behalf of the State rewards totaling more than $10,000 for a solution to the killings.

Grimly, the usually ebullient, rotund Chief Executive pointed to newspaper clippings reporting the crime on his desk. He said, "I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton County until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers."

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Meanwhile, public reaction to the lynchings was mounting.

In Birmingham, Ala., the Southern Negro Youth Congress wrote U. S. Atty. Gen. Clark asking that martial law be declared in Walton County and a house-to-house search conducted for the slayers.

Rep. Marcantonio, American Labor, New York, asked President Truman for "prompt" Federal intervention. He has been a strong advocate of a Federal law to give Federal courts jurisdiction over any lynching case.

Ga.

The Maryland conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People also asked Truman to intervene.

In New York, the NAACP sent telegrams to President Truman and Atty. Gen. Clark requesting the President to "go on the radio and to authorize an immediate investigation into the lynching of these four citizens."

The NAACP added: "We further urge you to bring all pressure and prestige of your office to check current outbreak of lawlessness which threatens not only minorities but democracy itself. Unless this is done, we are certain that very dark days are ahead."

The Civil Rights Congress in New York was reported to have offered a $1,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the lynching.

TESTING BULLETS Sun. 7-28-46

Meanwhile, the agents working at the scene of the massacre reported they had taken bullets from the bodies of the Negroes and were conducting ballistics tests.

Maj. Spence, after a day and night of intense work, suggested that the bloddy murders weer a "rehearsed affair."

Said Spence: "It looks like it was a rehearsed affair. It looks like it might have been planned since the Negro was first confined to jail." Constitution

The GBI head referred to Roger Malcolm, 27, who had been released on a $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, Barney Hester.

The other victims of the mob were Malcolm's wife and George Dorsey and his wife.

Only witness to the multiple slaying was Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer in whose car the Negroes were riding.

Harrison said he was taking the Negroes to his farm to work after obtaining Malcolm's release on bond. Atlanta Ga.

GROUP WAYLAID

The Walton County farmer said a band of 20 armed and unmasked men waylaid the group as his car approached a bridge. The Negro men, Harrison related, were taken from the car first and their arms bound.

When one of the women suddenly remarked that she knew one of the men, the mob returned and ordered them to accompany their husbands. Sun. 7-28-46

Harrison said the four were marched to a clump of bushes and lined up. Then the leader of the mob, who "looked like a retired businessman," counted to three, Harrison said, and the first of several volleys rang out.

Harrison said he made his way to a store and telephoned news of the massacre to Walton County Sheriff E. S. Gordon. The latter has declared that since Harrison is unable to identify any of the mob, he can do nothing.

34a

Gov. Arnall in announcing the rewards said, "as Governor of Georgia, I am offering a reward to the full limit of the law. Five hundred dollars will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of each participant in the massacre. These rewards will total more than $10,000. This lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice." Sun. 7-28-46

7430

Four Negroes Brutally Slain

FBI To Investigate Georgia Lynchings

Charlotte, N. C., Observer
July 27, 1946

MONROE, Ga., July 26.—(AP)—The bloody massacre of two young Negro farm hands and their wives by an armed and unmasked band of white men brought the promise of a Federal investigation today.

34a

The announcement from Washington said that the Federal Bureau of Investigation would carry out the inquiry for the civil rights section of the department of Justice.

The ghastly details of the multiple lynching were told by Loy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was taking the Negroes to his farm and who was held at gun point by the mob.

Harrison had come to Monroe from his farm to get Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. He was accompanied by the three other Negroes, Malcolm's wife and George Dorsey and his wife.

The white man and the four Negroes were en-route back home in a car when they were waylaid by the mob. Their questioning indicated they were seeking Malcolm. There was no indication why they also took Dorsey out for execution. The women were killed because one of them recognized a member of the mob.

Harrison said the band, led by a "tall, dignified looking white man" lined the Negroes four abreast, and then to the count of "one, two, three" by the leader, three volleys were fired into the quartet.

"I didn't have anything but a pocket knife," Harrison related. "What could I do?"

Harrison said "most of the men were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me. The leader looked like a retired business man. He was about 65, wor a brown suit and had on a big broad brimmed hit. He looked like he had a good Florida suntan."

TEN IN 1918.

It was the first lynching of more than one person in Georgia since 1918. Ten Negroes were lynched in Brooks county then. There have been nine instances of multiple lynchings in the state since 1892.

The coroner said that at least 60 bullets were pumped into the bodies of the Negro farm hands and their wives. The grotesquely sprawle bodies were found in a clump o bushes beside a little used side road.

The hands of the two men wer bound behind them. The hands o the women were free. The uppe part of the bodies were scarcel recognizable from the mass of bul let holes.

The women were sisters.

The stark rural tragedy—first o its kind in Georgia since long before the war—occurred about eight miles from here late yesterday, but the story did not "leak out" until today. Monroe is 40 miles northeast of metropolitan Atlanta.

COMPLETE PROBE.

A few hours later Attorney General Tom Clark's office in Washington announced that a "complete investigation" had been ordered into the multiple lynching.

Without further elaboration, the

announcement from Washington said that the Federal inquiry would be carried out by the civil rights section of the Department of Justice.

One of the Negroes was shot in the back and Coroner W. T. Brown said that this indicated some member of the mob fired at him after he fell from the first fusilade.

The slaughter came as the aftermath of the stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester, 22, a farmer, on July 14. Hester is still in a hospital here.

JUST OUT OF ARMY.

Dorsey's mother, Monia Williams, said that her son had just been discharged from the service after five years in the Army, including overseas duty in Australia and North Africa. She received his discharge button in the mail this week, she added.

Both the young couples, she said, had married recently.

Harrison said that the women nearly escaped the purpose of the mob.

The Negro men were taken out of the car first and led down the sideroad. The women were held at the automobile. Then a member of the mob said one of the Negro women had recognized him.

"Get those damned women, too," the mob leader shouted.

Several of the men then came back and dragged the shrieking women from the automobile. Then, a few moments later, Harrison heard the shots—many of them. The mob dispersed.

The nearest house to the scene was a mile and a half away. Harrison made his way two miles to a country store and called the sheriff. The sheriff came and they found the bodies in the bushes.

NONE IDENTIFIED.

The sheriff, E. S. Gordon, said that since Harrison could not identify any member of the band he had gone as far as he could with his investigation. He called in state police.

The lynching was the first in the nation in nearly a year, and was the first multiple lynching since two 14-year-old Negro boys charged with attempted rape were hanged by a Mississippi mob in October, 1942.

Lynchings have steadily declined in the last decade. Last year only one lynching was listed by Tuskegee Institute and it was disputed whether the act, which occurred in Florida, was actually a lynching.

In 1933 there were 28 lynchings in 11 states. By 1939 there were only three lynchings in two states. In 1940 the figure rose to five, but dropped to four in 1941. In 1942 there were five again, in 1943 three, and in 1944 two.

34a

DOWNWARD CURVE.

Lynchings have taken a sharp downward curve in the last hal century. The all-time high was ir 1892 when 231 were recorded, ac cording to the figures of the South ern Regional Council in Atlanta.

Harrison was the only witness t testify at the inquest, which re sulted in a verdict of death at th hands of unknown parties. He tes tified to these details:

came to a wooden bridge spannin a river which divides Walton an Oconee counties. An automobil across he road blocked his passage.

He stopped. Another car drov in behind him. Then another an another. A man who apparently a sumed the role of leader of th mob armed with rifles and sho guns, walked up and said:

"We want Roger."

Harrison answered: "That's nc Roger. That's George."

Another mobster put a gun t Harrison's neck, and the leade said:

"This is our party. You kee out of it. We ought to kill you too."

Then the Negro men were dragged out of the car and bound wit ropes and marched off. Then several members of the mob cam back and dragged the women dow the road.

Workers Defense League Urges Lynch Probe

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

8-6-46

NEW YORK CITY —(WDL) — Immediately following announcement of the brutal lynching of two Negroes and their wives near Monroe, Georgia, the Workers Defense League joined the drive for complete federal and state investigations and for immediate passage of federal anti-lynch legislation.

34a Ga.

In answer to a WDL wire pointing out that the Monroe lynching was "doubtless encouraged by the recent victory of Eugene Talmadge," Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia, who has offered a $10,000 reward wired back: "Thanks for your message. Am doing everything humanly possible to apprehend and prosecute guilty parties."

In addition to wiring Governor Arnall, requesting a complete state investigation, the League wired Turner Smith of the civil liberties division of the U. S. department of justice urging that the probe announced by the attorney-general be a complete one. Tues.

President Truman was urged by the WDL to deliver a special message to congress calling for anti-lynch legislation. Democratic and Republican congressional leaders, Sen. Joseph M. Guffey, who came out in favor of such legislation and Senator Robert M. La Follette, J., were all urged by the League to get the anti-lynch law out of committee before congress adjourns.

Then, following announcement of another lynching, near Lexington, Miss., the WDL asked President Truman "To personally take a hand in ending this open season on lynching" and renewed its request that he deliver a special message to congress demanding anti-lynch legislation. This letter described as "completely inadequate" the President's expression of horror made indirectly through the attorney-general.

Monroe Lynch Probe Chief Resigns Job; Speculate Reasons

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Tues. 8-20-46

It was learned late Saturday that John Trost, special agent in charge of the Atlanta Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, who was directing the FBI investigation of the Walton County lynchings had resigned to enter private business.

34a Ga.

According to a release from the Washington office of the FBI, Mr. Trost who was assigned to the Atlanta office in February, 1946, will return to his home in Wisconsin. Henry E. King will take over the Atlanta office as acting special agent in charge.

SPECIAL BRANCH

It was disclosed that after the FBI decided upon a large scale investigation a special branch was set up at Monroe, with Charles E. Weeks, special agent from New Orleans, in charge.

The Atlanta Daily World attempted to contact Mr Trost Monday for a statement, but was informed by officials at the Atlanta FBI office that he resigned on August 15.

CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION

The sudden resignation of Mr. Trost has caused considerable speculation among Negroes, especially since it came right on the heels of United Press reports from Washington, D. C., that the FBI had identified at least three members of the armed mob.

Negroes are particularly anxious to know if his resignation resulted from the investigation of the Walton County lynchings and are also eager to find out the present status of the joint FBI and GBI probe.

Montezuma, Ga., Georgian
Aug. 22, 1946

BREAK HOPED FOR IN LYNCH CASE—ARNALL

Federal and State officers working on the lynching of four Negroes in Walton County have no new leads toward the case's solution but are "hoping for a break," Gov. Arnall revealed yesterday.

34a

Twenty agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation are in the county to stay with the investigation until it is solved, Arnall said, while the State has 12 operatives working on the lynching.

Rewards now exceed $50,000, Arnall added.

The Governor reported on the progress of the case at his press conference and also answered questions concerning other affairs of the State.

When asked if there would be any surplus cash left from his administration to pass on to Gov. Talmadge, Arnall replied: "I don't know what the financial condition will be as of Jan. 1, other than what is in the report of the State Auditor."

State Auditor B. E. Thrasher, Jr., previously has said that he anticipates the Arnall administration will have balanced books when it is concluded.

Arnall also announced he had replied to a letter from J. Frank Myers, Chairman of the Veterans' Committee of the Young Voters of Georgia, in which Myers had requested a conference of presidents of all colleges in Georgia to discuss housing. The Governor replied he would notify all the college presidents of the Young Voters' interest in housing and pointed out that the Regents of the University System were expanding facilities as rapidly as possible.

Gov. Arnall also reported that James (Big Jim) Folsom, Alabama's Governor-nominate, would arrive Friday for a visit of several days. Folsom is expected to discuss Georgia's governmental reforms before assuming the post of chief executive ...ama.

THEY MUST BE CONVICTED

Defender Chicago, Ill.

In the past few weeks seven Negroes have been murdered and another has had his eyes gouged out as a result of the hate wave now sweeping the South—yet arrests have been made in only two of these cases with the record zero on conviction.

34a

In the most brutal of these atrocities—the lynching of two men and women in Monroe, Ga., and the eye-gouging attack on Isaac Woodard—Federal and State authorities have up to now accomplished nothing.

Ga.

Almost from the day these brutal attacks were made every law enforcement agency has cried "Wolf." From the highly touted FBI on down they have all complained of the difficulties of getting information which would lead to arrest and conviction of the maniacs involved.

(Investigation)

And of course this difficulty looms as an insurmountable obstacle—insurmountable because Negroes were victims of white inhumanity.

We expect Atty. Gen. Tom Clark to forget the color of these victims—stop crying, use all the resources available in his Department of Justice to track down these criminals and prepare evidence strong enough for conviction.

We are tired of his mealy-mouth promises. We want action of the same quality that he would be expected to take against any other enemy of American society. Sat. 8-17-46

We cannot accept the thesis that a few ignorant criminals whose workmanship was as crude as that of the murderers of Monroe can baffle for long the FBI. Nor can we understand why the small town police officers who beat out Woodard's eyes have not been located.

Hate murders will never be checked as long as their perpetrators escape punishment as the steadily mounting atrocity score shows.

Mr. Attorney General, get busy and help get these social enemies behind bars.

9436

7431

Clark "Never Heard Of Isaac Woodard" Case

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Wallace Blames Talmadge For Ga. Atrocity

8-15-46

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Atty. Gen. Tom Clark has "never heard of Isaac Woodard," the GI who had his eyes gouged out by South Carolina police, he told the Chicago committee against lynching which sent representatives to his office Thursday to press for action on the quadruple lynching in Walton County, Georgia.

34a

Sixty Negro and white persons, headed by Milas Stephens as chairman, representing 62 Chicago organizations with a total membership of 1,500,000 persons, came here Thursday to visit Clark, President Truman, Secy Wallace and both AFL and CIO leaders on the lynching crisis. The trip was the result of a mass meeting the previous Friday night at which more than $1,500 was contributed for this purpose by 5,000 demonstrators.

Coolness Reported

The Texas-born attorney general, cordial at the start, cooled considerably as the delegates who crowded into his office demanded action. He said the lynching is being investigated and the department will act "if the victims' federal civil rights have been violated." The investigators are Southern whites, he confessed, except for "one Arizona agent."

"I'm the best friend the Negro has in Washington," he told the committee. "I'll do anything I can in this case. Why, some of my best friends are Negroes."

Wallace View

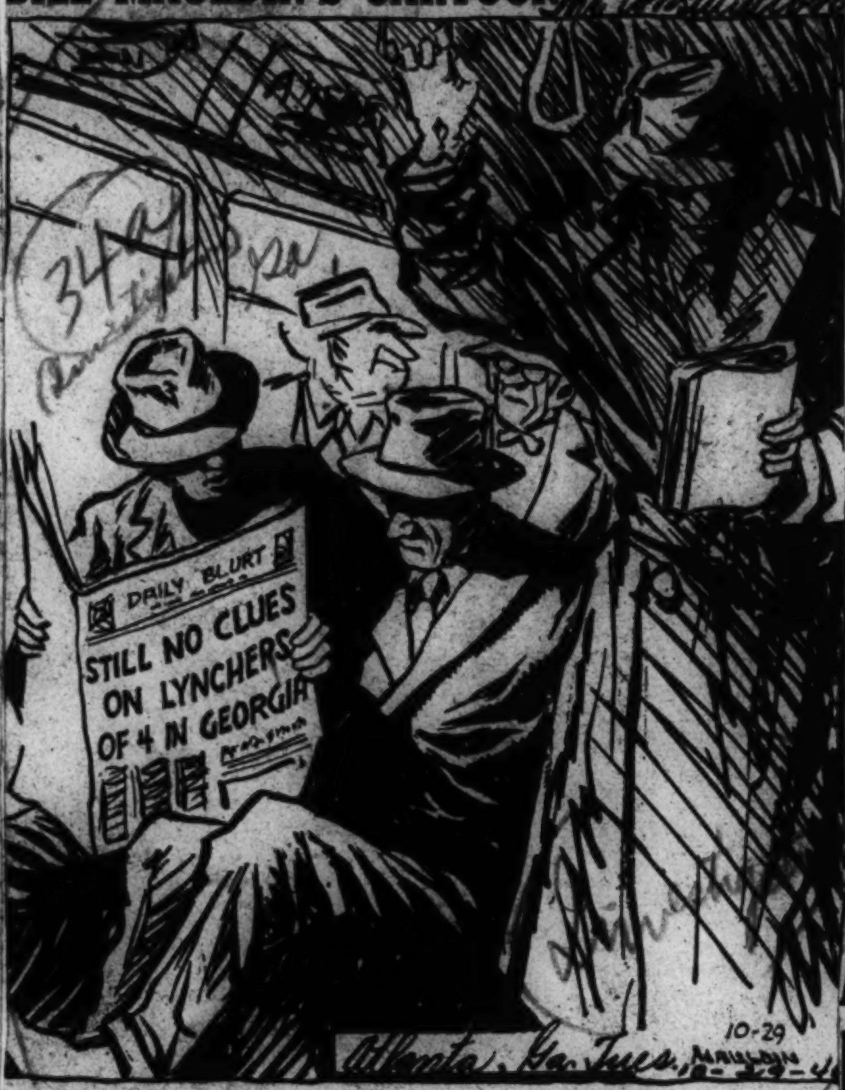
At Secy. Wallace's office, the liberal Iowan said he was certain Clark was doing "all he can." He added, "I've never seen any indication of race prejudice on his part—but he does come from Texas and southerners have different traditions from those in the north." 8-15-46

Blaming Talmadge for the atrocity, Wallace added:

"The Red-menace shouters don't realize what a weapon they are giving Russia by this lynching. The Anglo-Saxon race attitude is the weakest link in British and American democracy."

BILL MAULDIN'S CARTOON

The Constitution


DAILY BLURT
STILL NO CLUES ON LYNCHERS OF 4 IN GEORGIA
10-29
MAULDIN

34a

Atlanta, Ga. Tues. 10-29-46

"I see the FBI cleared up another big postage stamp robbery."

FBI Pressing Hard on Trial of Monroe Lynchers in 5 Areas

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 10-26-46

34a

MONROE, Ga.—(ANP)—Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton County said last week that FBI agents had gone into Oconee, Morgan, Rockdale, Barrow and Newton Counties, furthering their investigation of the July 25 lynching of Roger Malcom, his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Malcolm; George Dorsey and his wife, Mrs. Mae M. Dorsey, near this city.

Attorney General Tom Clark ordered an investigation by the Department of Justice last July 26, and agents have been in Walton County since that time carrying on a tedious investigation.

Charlie Weeks, special FBI agent in charge of the Walton County probe, announced on Sept. 27 that not an inkling of "conclusive evidence" had turned up in connection with the lynchings. The FBI agents were instructed to remain on the job until the mobsters are apprehended and brought to trial.

DID TALMADGE FORCE GA. FBI CHIEF OUT

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 8-31-46

ATLANTA—(ANP)—Speculation ran high here this week as to the real forces causing the recent resignation of John Trost, agent in charge of the local FBI office, who was heading the federal investigation of the Monroe lynchings.

34a

The leading question being asked is whether Trost knew who the lynchers were and was pressure from certain quarters preventing his office from revealing the information? The other important question being asked points the finger at the Georgia bureau of investigation, which is reported to have covered up evidence during the investigation, as having forced his resignation.

Some say the real power forcing the Trost resignation was Eugene Talmadge, who will have power to appoint a new GBI chieftain and subordinates after Jan. 5.

Trost, FBI spokesmen in Washington said, wanted to return to Wisconsin to engage in the practice of law. He was assigned to the Atlanta office in February, 1946. In his native state he is known as a "square shooter" and conscientious worker.

Authority of Government in Ga. Lynching Questioned

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

34a

Sat. 8-17-46

MONROE, Ga. — (ANP) — The authority of Federal Government in the recent massacre of four colored persons was questioned, here, recently by Marshall Pollock, solicitor general of the western circuit, who asserted that no Federal law had been violated and that the State of Georgia must arrest and try any suspects found.

Meanwhile, FBI agents are on the scene to work with the seven Georgia investigators assigned by Maj. William E. Spence, State director of public safety, to find those responsible for the crime. They are checking and rechecking the movements of every person in the community who could possibly be involved in the mass-slayings.

A late development in the investigation was the discovery that, apparently, bullets which had been imbedded in trees near the murder scene had been dug out and that four rudely-shaped crosses were found carved in trunks of other trees in the vicinity.

ARREST OF LOY HARRISON AS ACCESSORY IN LYNCHINGS URGED BY PROMINENT SOUTHERNER

The Black Dispatch

Cites Fallacy in Supposed Innocence of Man Who Made Bond For Mob's Victims

Oklahoma City, Okla.

POINTS TO FLIMSY BONDS MADE

Sat. 8-17-46

ATLANTA — (ANP) — A period in solitary confinement until he is ready to divulge his actual role in the lynching for four in Monroe, Ga., was suggested for Loy Harrison, farmer who bailed out of jail one of the victims supposedly to work on his farm, just prior to the ambush slaying.

34a

Not only does the action show the extreme laxity of the Monroe police, according to a prominent Georgian, it also reveals that Harrison took liberties never engaged in by plantation owners in this section. One landlord commented:

"It is unthinkable for one landowner to take the tenant or sharecropper of another landowner out of jail on bond or otherwise to work on his plantation without having first consulted the person on whose plantation the tenant lives.

"Secondly," the farmer continued, "no landowner would risk posting bond for a Negro sharecropper who had wounded his landlord, especially during the time when the outcome of the wound was undetermined."

It also was pointed out that the mob could not possibly have known which road Harrison would travel with his prisoners and at what time without advance information from him.

Another fallacy in Harrison's supposedly innocent participation is revealed by the small bond he paid for the victim's release from jail. Six hundred dollars, the amount posted, without having been imposed for a misdemeanor, officials reveal, and emphasize that a $2,500 or $3,000 bond would have been required for a Negro accused of assult with a deadly weapon on a white man.

The whereabouts of Harrison between 2 p. m., when he completed his transaction with police, and 5 p. m. when the death car left town also are a mystery. It is believed by many that he was communicating with the mob at that time.

The most obvious factor pointing to his guilt, of course, is his sudden lapse of memory during the time of the lynching, it is observed. This is declared impossible by residents of this section who know one another like one big family. Even the animals of landowners are familiar to every other landowner, native Georgians disclosed.

If Harrison contends that the lynchers came from another county or community, it is believed that such a statement would more readily point to his guilt because outsiders would scarcely know anything about his activities on the murder day or the road he would travel back to his farm without information from him.

Fear Clark Whitewash Of Georgia Lynchings

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Wed. 10-30-46

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

34a

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—Friends of civil rights welcomed news that the Department of Justice will present evidence on the Georgia lynching of two Negro couples to a Federal Grand Jury, but were not optimistic about the outcome today.

An attorney who declined to be quoted said there was no indication Attorney General Clark intended to prosecute the case with vigor.

In the same speech in which he revealed the FBI had questioned 2,500 witnesses in the Monroe County outrage, Clark stressed "legal handicaps" which he said limit the power of the federal government to prosecute, the lawyer pointed out.

Although Clark directed the Federal District Attorney in Athens, Ga., to place the evidence before a grand jury, he has laid the basis in advance for a whitewash verdict.

"The jurisdiction of the federal government depends upon a thin thread of law," Clark told the Herald Tribune Forum in New York Monday night. "The federal statutes give me the power to prosecute only when a person has been deprived of a federally secured right. The right of life, liberty and property, the Supreme Court has repeatedly held, is not a federally secured right."

This lawyer observed that "Clark seems more concerned with preparing the case for the defense than in prosecuting those responsible for the firing-squad lynching of the four Negroes. Attorneys for the lynchers will use Clark's remarks to support their claims that the federal government lacks jurisdiction in the case."

Although this country needs a federal anti-lynching law, there is a basis in present statutes for successful action against lynchers in the Monroe County case, he said. But this requires a fighting, uncompromising attitude on the part of the Justice Department. Texas-born Clark does not have such an attitude, he added.

To File Murder Charges If Arrests Are Made

Kansas City, Mo.

The Call

MONROE, Ga.—(NNPA)— The State of Georgia and not the Federal [illegible] will prosecute [illegible] which lynched four persons—two men and their wives—near here July 25, when and if they are apprehended.

34a

Under state law they may be tried for murder, while under federal law they may be tried only for violation of the civil rights of the dead persons, if it is proved that there was a conspiracy or that any peace officer was in any way involved in the lynchings. Under the state law, a life sentence may be inflicted, while under the federal civil rights statute the maximum punishment which may be meted out is 10 years in prison or a fine of $5,000, or both. 8-23-46

Charged with Murder

District Solicitor B. Marshall Pollock said last Friday that murder charges will be placed before a Walton county grand jury in the event arrests are made. He added that agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, who are most active in the investigation would be witnesses.

There was no indication however, that the case is near solution. The FBI which has enlarged its force here to 15 or 20 agents is more secretive than ever about its progress.

The FBI's entry into the case had prompted reports that federal charges might be placed against any suspects arrested.

Posts Reward Friday

Governor Ellis Arnall has not asked Attorney General Eugene Cook to take a hand in the inquiry, but has confined his activity to posting a $500 reward for the capture and conviction of each member of the mob. 8-23-46

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation is directing the inquiry for the state but, like the FBI, it is tight-lipped about how much effort it is putting forth or what progress it is making.

The FBI reportedly is trying to learn the identity of the tipster who informed mob leaders that one of the murdered men, Roger Malcolm, was being released from jail, where he had been held on a charge of stabbing the son of his white employer.

Break Hoped For in Lynch

Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

Case--Arnall

Thurs 8-22-46

Federal and State officers working on the lynching of four Negroes in Walton County have no new leads toward the case's solution but are "hoping for a break," Gov. Arnall revealed yesterday.

Twenty agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation are in the county to stay with the investigation until it is solved, Arnall said, while the State has 12 operatives working on the lynching.

34a

Rewards now exceed $50,000, Arnall added.

The Governor reported on the progress of the case at his press conference and also answered questions concerning other affairs of the State.

Ga.

When asked if there would be any surplus cash left from his administration to pass on to Gov. Talmadge, Arnall replied: "I don't know what the financial condition will be as of Jan. 1, other than what is in the report of the State Auditor."

State Auditor B. E. Thrasher, Jr., previously has said that he anticipates the Arnall administration will have balanced books when it is concluded.

Arnall also announced he had replied to a letter from J. Frank Myers, Chairman of the Veterans' Committee of the Young Voters of Georgia, in which Myers had requested a conference of presidents of all colleges in Georgia to discuss housing. The Governor replied he would notify all the college presidents of the Young Voters' interest in housing and pointed out that the Regents of the University System were expanding facilities as rapidly as possible. Thurs 8-22-46

Gov. Arnall also reported that James (Big Jim) Folsom, Alabama's Governor-nominate, would arrive Friday for a visit of several days. Folsom is expected to discuss Georgia's governmental reforms before assuming the post of chief executive in Alabama.

Ministers Appeal

PM New York, N.Y.

To the Editor:

I believe you will be interested in a petition circulated and signed by ministers, Negro and white, of this township. This kind of bold action is most certainly encouraged and endorsed by a majority of Georgia citizens.

Darien, Ga. BERT D. GILDEN

(ENCLOSURE)

Mr. Harry Truman
The White House
Washington, D. C.

34a

Dear Mr. President: Tue. 10-15-46

As ministers of the Christian Gospel, we call upon you as a servant of God and the people of this nation to see to it that immediate steps are taken to apprehend and bring to justice the murderers of the four Negroes who were recently shot near Monroe, Ga.

We have been waiting patiently now for two months for the agencies of our elected government to announce any action whatsoever. It is known that nothing can be expected of local or state agencies in this case, due to extreme political pressure, and that only through the Federal Bureau of Investigation can any action be taken. It is said here in the state of Georgia that the murderers and their accessories are known and that it is only political considerations which prevent the F. B. I. from doing anything.

We preach a gospel of love and freedom and we cannot stand silently by and see terrorism become the law of our beloved Southland. We call on you, our elected executive, to execute the will of the American people, both South and North, to see that this case and others which are also pending be prosecuted to the limit without fear or favor and those who have committed murder be brought to judgment.

Faithfully yours,
G. ROSS FREEMAN, Pastor,
Darien Methodist Church
ARCHER TORREY, Vicar,
St. Andrew's & St. Cyprian's
Episcopal Churches
WM. G. STUDER, Pastor,
First Baptist Church of Darien
MARCUS ROY JOHNSON, Minister,
First Assembly of God, Darien
WM. B. YOUNG, Pastor,
St. John's African Baptist Church
J. B. RODGERS, Minister,
Grant Chapel Presby. Church
N. H. GAMBLE, Pastor,
St. Luke Baptist Church,
Sapeloe, Ga.

Private Groups Probe Murders As FBI Lags

Defender

Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 8-17-46

Despite orders from President Truman to the FBI, and from Georgia Gov. Ellis Arnall to the GBI to press toward capture of the mob which murdered four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., July 25, all evidence uncovered to date has been gathered by private sources.

34a

Latest developments reveal that names of six mob members have been turned over to the FBI and the GBI by NAACP operatives assigned to the case. The law enforcement agencies have made no comment on the NAACP statement except that arrests are being withheld until the entire mob can be rounded up. A Washington paper revealed that two mobs had waited to ambush the victims.

A GBI official earlier stated that his force was unable to cope with the situation, because no one with information would talk. It also learned last week, that bullets from the murder weapons were dug out of trees in the lynch area and replaced with Ku Klux Klan crosses, all under the noses of 35 FBI men and seven GBI operatives.

In an interview with a protest delegation which visited Washington to see the president, last week, James B. Carey, secretary-treasurer of the CIO disclosed that the CIO and the NAACP have eight operatives in the lynch area. Four are white and four are Negro.

Meanwhile, following reports linking gubernatorial nominee Eugene Talmadge and J. Loy Harrison, driver of the car from which the hapless victims were taken, with the crime, President Truman stated an investigation was being pushed forward with all possible energy. The president, who made the announcement during a press conference, Friday, said he had no information beyond that. FBI officials refused to comment on the statement.

According to newspaper accounts, evidence sufficient to convict the entire mob will soon be placed before Gov. Arnall and Attorney General Tom Clark. The paper added, that two mobs were assigned to cover possible routes Harrison would take in carrying the lynch victims to his farm. Harrison took what he termed a side road, to "avoid trouble."

The mob assigned to that road halted his car and took Roger Malcolm, his wife Dorothy, George Dorsey, and his wife, Mae from Harrison's car and riddled their bodies with more than 60 bullets.

Threatened In Jail Defender

Malcolm, a former tenant on the farm of Barney Hester, Walton County Talmadge backer, had been jailed for stabbing Hester, who allegedly made advances to his wife. An attempt to lynch Malcolm failed and he was confined to Walton County jail on an attempted murder charge. During his stay in jail, threatening mobs milled around the building every day.

Finally he was released on $600 bond to Harrison, who himself has served two prison terms, by Louis Howard, a deputy sheriff and relative of Hester. Bond for Negroes in such cases is generally prohibitive. Malcolm was released "to work for Harrison" and was enroute to his farm when the mob struck.

New disclosures link Harrison closely with what GBI head Major William Spence termed a "rehearsed affair." Beside the fact that he bailed out another man's employe to "work for him," and could not describe the unmasked men although he has lived in the area for 25 years. Harrison's movements between 2 and 5 p.m., on the murder day are a mystery. He completed his bond transaction at 2 p.m., and completely disappeared until 5 p.m., when he came to pick Malcolm up. Chicago, Ill.

Talmadge Visit Exposed

Field investigators have discovered that Eugene Talmadge, who won the unit vote in Walton County by 78 votes, held a conference with Hester's father before the lynching. He met the elder Hester at his home a few days after the stabbing and held a lengthy meeting with him behind a barn. After the meeting, Talmadge left on a vacation, and the mob took over. It was suspected that Talmadge asked reprisals against the 810 Negroes in the county who registered to vote. Only 322 voted. Sat. 8-17-46

Negro and white citizens of the state are coming to the front in the fight against lynch terror. They have posted a $10,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of the killers. They have also started a $100,000 fund to be used in the fight, and an Atlanta columnist has called for the fund to be increased to $13,000,000, to be drawn on the basis of $1 from each Negro in the country.

7432

New Evidence Disclosed In Ga. Lynch Murders

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat 8-31-46

34a

NEW YORK—In a strong letter to U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark the Civil Rights Congress last week supplied new evidence from one of the nation's most "shameful" crimes and demanded that the Department of Justice make arrests in the recent quadruple lynching in Walton County, Ga.

From details supplied by their own investigators, the CRC confirmed reports that the deputy sheriff who released Roger Malcolm from jail for the trip that resulted in his death is the brother-in-law of Barney Hester Jr., allegedly stabbed by Malcolm.

Harrison Suspect

Other facts uncovered by a probe disclosed that no record of the alleged $600 bond under which Malcolm was released could be found; Louis Howard, a deputy sheriff, had been seen in the vicinity of the lynching half an hour following the massacre; Roy Harrison, who was taking Malcolm to his farm claimed to be taking a short-cut, which actually proved to be a longer route.

In their letter to the attorney general the congress also pointed out several other facts which needed investigating, among them, the information that Eugene Talmadge, governor-elect, had paid a visit to Barney Hester after the stabbing while Malcolm was in jail and that the lynched ex-GI had also been saved from a mob of lynchers shortly after the stabbing.

George Marshall, CRC chairman of the board, expressed the "belief that only definite action taken by the FBI towards apprehension of the criminals will open the flood gates of clinching evidence now held in a conspiracy of silence inspired by fear and disbelief that the Federal Government intends seriously to bring the lynchers to book.

FBI Must Act

"The mounting number of lynchings and incidents of terror in the South from Columbia, Tenn., to Magee, Miss," he wrote Clark, "cannot be met by the good and decent people of the South without effective federal intervention. Through the whole series of lawless and savage attacks on the Negro people in the last six months, the Department of Justice has failed to book a single murderer. On the contrary, in the one case of federal grand jury intervention, Columbia, Tenn., the state enforcement agencies were praised for the action which resulted early this year in the killing of two Negroes, and victimization of the entire Negro community.

"It is this kind of immunity from punishment which is giving greater and greater license to the white supremacists to carry out a systematic rule of violence and terror. It is incredible to think that the Federal Government of our nation cannot act to stop mob rule and mob murder."

Reactions Vary as Congress Debates on Mass Lynching

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat 8-3-46

34a

WASHINGTON (AFRO National Bureau) — Echoes of Georgia's mass lynching were heard in both Houses of Congress over the week-end, with reactions generally following the regional pattern.

In the House, Rep. Adam C. Powell was first on the floor with a demand that the Justice Department conduct a thorough and immediate investigation of the tragedy. Later, he dispatched a telegram to Attorney General Tom Clark, which declared:

Justice Breaking Down

"I have this day, July 26, on the floor of the House, raised the question of the rapid breakdown of justice in the United States. I have cited the atrocity mass murder in Georgia of two colored women and two colored men within the past 24 hours.

"I have cited the brutal permanent blinding in South Carolina of a war veteran whose eyes were gouged out by the local police. I have further cited the mass destruction by Tennessee State police of the colored section of Columbia.

"I demanded—on the floor of the House today—and I demand now that your department immediately investigate and bring charges immediately against the Gorgia murderers and the South Carolina 'Hitlers.'"

Marcantonio Also Heard

Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.) was also quick to call upon President Truman to take a hand in the investigation, declaring in a telegram to the White House:

"Unless immediate Government action is taken, there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbos and Talmadges.

"This present outrage cannot be overlooked. I respectfully urge that you act now."

Lynchers Defended

In the Upper House, Southerners were quick to resent an attack made on the Georgia lynchers by Senator Knowland of California.

Senator Knowland insetred in the Congressional Record a newspaper account of the lynching.

Southerners, led by Russell of Georgia, attempted to defend the lynchings by charging that the crime was no worse than those committed in other sections of the country.

He was supported chiefly by Johnson of South Carolina, who charged that Knowland had no right to complain, "because Hollywood also had some hideous crimes."

Others Take Up Argument

Eastland of Mississippi also attacked California and McClellan (Dem., Ark.) supported his Dixie colleagues in their sectional warfare.

Senator Langer (Rep., N. Dak.) who has frequently in troduced anti-discrimination clauses into legislation, did an about-face when he objected to the insertion of the article if it contained an attack on Governor-elect Gene Talmadge."

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
Aug. 10, 1946

Arnall Denies 'Break' In Probe of Lynching

34a

Gov. Arnall says Federal and State Police investigating the lynching of four Negroes near Monroe July 25 "are making very slow progress and have nothing definite as yet."

The Washington Post yesterday quoted a Georgia official, who asked to remain anonymous, as saying the FBI had put its finger on 'at least three of the gang and is tying up the threads of other evidence before making arrests of the entire lynch mob.

"I know nothing of any identifications or arrests in the Walton County cases," Gov. Arnall said. "I have been in constant check with Federal and State investigators working on the lynchings, and they tell me they are making very slow progress and have nothing definite as yet. However, they are hoping for an early break in the case."

President Truman told his news conference in Washington Thursday the Federal investigations into the lynchings were going forward with all the energy possible. The President made this comment when he was asked about the progress of the inquiry he asked Att. Gen. Clark to make.

FBI Probe of Ga. Lynching Fans Out Over 5 Counties

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 10-19-46

34a

MONROE, Ga.—(NNPA)—Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton County said last Friday that agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation had fanned out into five nearby counties in their investigation of the lynching of four persons near here last July.

The sheriff said a special squad of FBI agents, working under Charlie Weeks, agent in charge, in Monroe, has gone into Oconee, Morgan, Rockdale, Barrow and Newton Counties.

Weeks declined comment on the sheriff's statement, saying that all announcements regarding the investigation would have to come from Washington.

The Walton official said that he had always felt that the killers did not come from his county, and that when the earlier investigation centered in Walton that "they were working the wrong territory."

7432

7432

White Woman Prevented First Attempt to Lynch Monroe Victim

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat 8-31-46

34a

MONROE, Ga.—A loud cry for arrests in the July 25 quadruple lynchings near here went out this week from headquarters of the NAACP and Civil Rights Congress. Both organizations said they had supplied the Bureau of Federal Investigation with startling facts that should help "crack the case wide open."

The NAACP's Walter White told The Courier Sunday that his office supplied the FBI and Georgia Bureau of Investigation with the names of seven white men who took part in the massacre.

DIGS UP INFORMATION

George Marshall, chairman of the board of the Civil Rights Congress, said his organization sent a private investigator to the scene of the crime and dug up this information:

1—Mrs. Lily Malcolm, white, prevented ten white men from lynching Roger Malcolm, one of the four mob victims, before he had been jailed for the alleged stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester Jr. (Hester was stabbed during an argument over Malcolm's wife.)

2—Hester is the brother-in-law of the deputy sheriff, Louis Howard, who released Malcolm from jail. (Shortly after his release, Malcolm, his wife, and another couple were taken from the car of J. Loy Harrison, white, and lynched.)

3—Deputy Sheriff Louis Howard was seen in the vicinity of the lynching site half an hour following the massacre and one and a half hour before J. Loy Harrison, the lone witness, gave the alarm.

4—No record of the $600 bond under which Deputy Sheriff Louis Howard said he released Malcolm could be found even three days after the lynching.

5—The ten white men who constituted the first mob that attempted to lynch Malcolm are all neighbors of the Hesters and live in Oconee County.

QUESTIONS ASKED

34a

In directing this information to U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark the Civil Rights Congress asked the following questions:

1—Why has no action been taken against Deputy Sheriff Louis Howard?

The Courier

2—Has J. Loy Harrison given satisfactory explanations for giving a three-hour notice of his intention of obtaining the release of Roger Malcolm from jail at 5 P. M., which obviously gave the lynch mob sufficient time to mobilize?

Pittsburgh, Pa.

3—Has Harrison explained why he took the rough and longer road to his home while the four Negroes were his passengers?

4—Has he explained why he did not make the alarm until two hours after the lynching?

Sat. 8-31-46

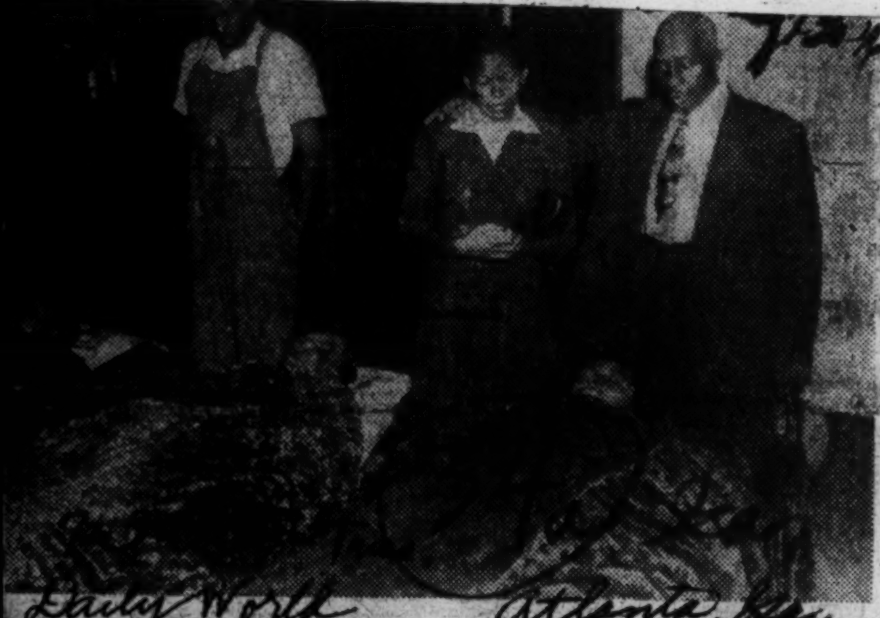
5—Has Mrs. Lily Malcolm been questioned as to the identity of the ten white persons who attempted to lynch Roger Malcolm before he was jailed? Or has she denied, as did J. Loy Harrison, that she could not recognize any of her neighbors, despite the fact, that the sun shone just as brightly during this attempted lynching as on the day it was successfully enacted?

In closing his letter to the Attorney General, Mr. Marshall said, "These questions are directed to you because of our firm belief that only some definite action taken by the FBI towards apprehension of the criminals will open the floodgates of clinching evidence now held in a conspiracy of silence inspired by fear and disbelief that the Federal Government intends seriously to bring the lynchers to book."

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) —

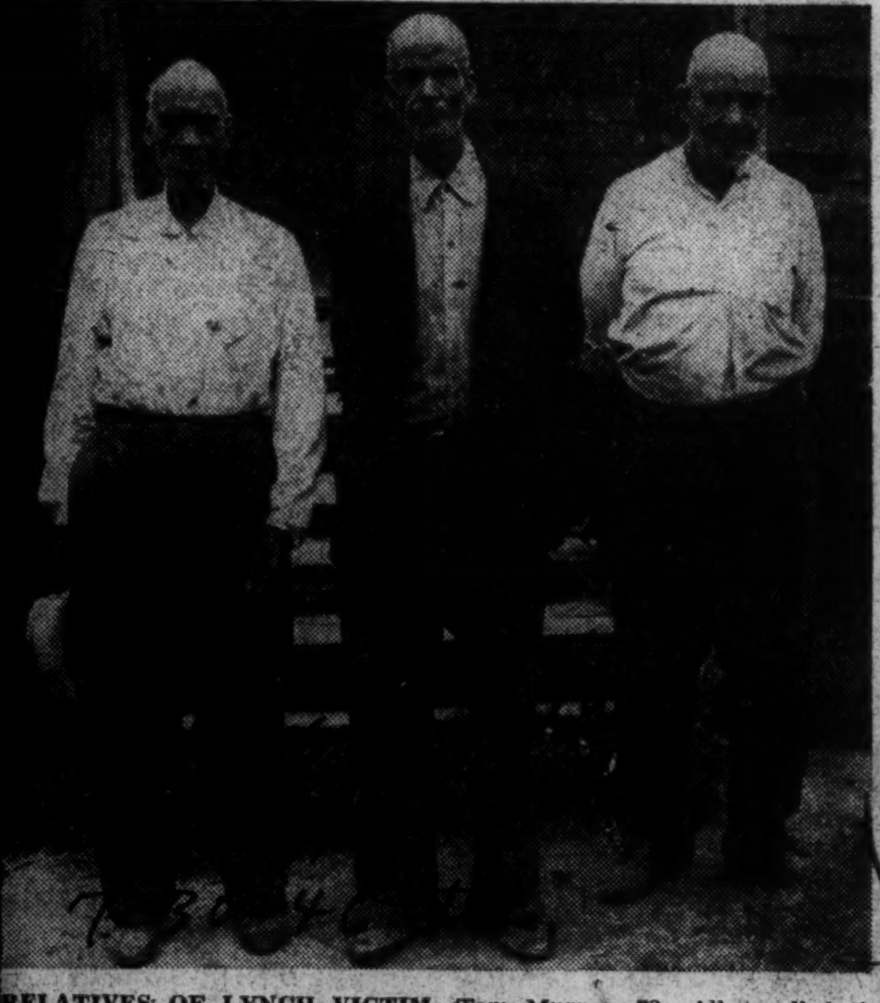
The Federal Bureau of Investigation last Friday declined to comment on reports that the names of some members of the mob who massacred four persons near Monroe, Ga., July 25, were known to its investigators.

7433 full



Daily Worker Atlanta, Ga.

LYNCH VICTIM'S SISTER COMFORTED—Mattie Frances Boyce, sister of Mrs. Willie Mae Dorsey, who died at hands of blood-thirsty mob, looks down on lynch victim and is comforted by the Rev. J. M. Maddox, pastor of Liberty Hill Baptist Church, Monroe, Ga.



7-30-46

RELATIVES OF LYNCH VICTIM Relatives of late Mrs. Mae Dorsey, who was shot down in true "Gestapo" style. Shocked at the crime are John Murray, 86, grandfather of Mrs. Dorsey, and his brothers Syrus Murray, 74, and Tom Murray, 72. All recalled the lynch victim's youth and spoke lovely of her, but were clammouthed" when questioned relative to the mass lynching. Every one in Monroe were reticent to talk.

Trees Studied In Lynching

34a Ga.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 4, 1946

Break Believed Near as Walton Probe Turns to Missing Bullets, Crude Crosses

MONROE, Ga., Aug. 3.—The trees along the lonely banks of the Apalachee River may hold the secret of the Walton County massacre, in the opinion of Federal and Georgia Bureau of Investigation officers seeking clues to the identity of the mob which shot down four Negroes 10 days ago.

Saturday two developments came to light involving the trees at the scene of the mass murders:

1. Bullets which cut down the four victims and which had been imbedded in the trunks of trees nearby had been cut out in several instances.

2. Four rudely-shaped crosses were discovered to have been carved in the trunks of other trees in the immediate vicinity.

Those two developments added to the atmosphere of subdued expectancy, leading newspapermen to believe that some sort of break may be expected soon.

Field Office Set Up

Another indication that the investigation was taking definite form came with revelation that the FBI had set up field headquarters at the Monroe Hotel here. The exact number of FBI agents detailed to the massacre investigation was not made known, but Major William E. Spence, director of the Georgia Department of Public Safety, said he has seven operatives co-operating with the federal agents.

On the surface, the investigation Saturday had settled down to the tedious task of checking and re-checking the movement of every person in the community who could possibly have been involved in the mass slayings. This procedure is necessarily slow, and its thoroughness may require as much as a week or 10 days, those in charge of the probe pointed out.

Neither the federal nor the state investigators had much to say about the four crosses discovered Saturday. What their significance was—if any—was purely conjectural.

Reporters Questioned

The matter of the missing bullets aroused more interest. Newspapermen assigned to the investigation were called in and asked directly whether they had cut the slugs out of the tree trunks. All reporters denied knowledge of the affair.

The value of the missing bullets as evidence, it was pointed out, is tremendous. Through the slugs may be traced by ballistics experts the very guns from which the fatal fusillade was fired.

Meanwhile, the first question over jurisdiction of the Federal Government was indicated, when Marshall Pollock, solicitor general of the western circuit, expressed the opinion that the Federal Government lacked authority in the Walton slayings because no federal law providing for FBI investigation had been violated.

Mr. Pollock made it clear he was not objecting to the FBI phase of the investigation. He simply viewed the matter, he said, on a legal plane and failed to discover any cause for federal action.

"Burden to Be State's"

"Much as I regret it," he said, "the burden of trying the suspects will fall on the state of Georgia."

In Atlanta, resolutions condemning the mass murders continued to pour into newspapers. One of the most forceful denunciations yet adopted is that contained in the action of the Georgia Council of Church Women. Adopted unanimously at the weekly meeting here Wednesday, the resolution read:

"Every church woman in Georgia who takes her religion seriously must be distressed and horrified by the brutal crime against innocent and defenseless people which has been perpetrated in our state.

"Lest silence should seem to give consent to this humiliating event, we call upon church women in every section of Georgia to speak out in this crucial hour against all intolerance and injustice, and especially when shown towards members of any minority group, remembering that race hatreds was the chief characteristic of the enemies we so recently gave our sons and our treasure to defeat.

"We urge all church women both to practice and to advocate in their communities, positive and constructive goodwill wherever there is misunderstanding, suspicion, and the resulting hatreds and fear between groups, and to demand that fair play and equal justice be assured to every citizen, no matter how obscure or helpless.

Action Wanted

"To claim the name of Christian without positive Christian action at a time like this is sacrilege.

"The Georgia Council of Church Women invites the participation of all like-minded women, either individually or in groups. Address the council at 409 Henry Grady Building, Atlanta."

The resolution was signed by the following members:

Mrs. E. G. Mackey, Methodist; Mrs. A. H. Sterne, Episcopal; Mrs. Fred Bridges, Baptist; Mrs. D. J. Brodman, Christian; Miss Christine Smith, Methodist; Mrs. A. V. Koebley, Lutheran; Mrs. S. D. Katz, Baptist; Mrs. Chester Martin, Christian, Mrs. L. S. Terrell, Presbyterian; Mrs. H. C. Dean, Presbyterian; Mrs. J. F. Heard, Episcopal, and Miss Louise Paine, Congregational.

Brown Raps Criticism Of Walton Officials

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—(AP)—Representative Paul Brown (Democrat, Georgia) took issue Saturday with persons criticizing Walton County, Ga., officials for not arresting immediately those responsible for the lynching of four Negroes there.

Brown said in a statement that "the solution to the crime is not wanted more anywhere than in Walton County . . . and the slander of Walton County's name is not justified, as it takes time to get evidence and unravel a crime of this character."

He continued:

"Contrary to the report in many sections of the country, I desire to say that in Walton County, where the lynching of four Negroes took place, the citizens and law officers are behind the investigation 100 per cent."

Assail Lynching

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—[illegible] thousand people demonstrated against the recent Georgia lynching of two Negro couples at a rally here, sponsored by the Englewood Progressive Association, a grass-roots organization made up of war veterans.

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rnall Denies 'Break' n Probe of Lynching

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.
Sat 8-10-46

Gov. Arnall says Federal and State Police investigating the lynch of four Negroes near Monroe July 25 "are making very slow and have nothing definite as yet."

The Washington Post yesterday quoted a Georgia official, who asked to remain anonymous, as saying the FBI had put its finger on at least three of the gang and is tying up the threads of other evidence before making arrests of the entire lynch mob.

"I know nothing of any identifications or arrests in the Walton County cases," Gov. Arnall said. "I have been in constant check with Federal and State investigators working on the lynchings, and they tell me they are making very slow progress and have nothing definite as yet. However, they are hoping for an early break in the case."

Sat 8-10-46

President Truman told his news

President Truman told his news conference in Washington Thursday the Federal investigations into the recent lynchings of four Negroes in Georgia were going forward with all the energy possible. The President made this comment when he was asked about the progress of the inquiry he asked Att. Gen. Clark to make.

Georgia Police Get Little Co-Operation

Charlotte, N. C., Observer
July 28, 1946

BY BENNETT DELOACH.

MONROE, Ga., July 27.—(AP)—The head of the Georgia state police told newsmen today "we just can't cope" with the local situation in the investigation of the massacre of four Negroes near here Thursday.

34a

"The best people in town won't talk about this," the police head, Major William E. Spence, said. "They have an idea who it is."

"When I get back to town (Atlanta) I'm going to ask the Governor to appeal to every congressman to help pass federal legislation against mob violence."

Major Spence met newsmen shortly after the release of a man whom he said fitted the description of the leader of the armed band which waylaid J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer, and the Negroes on the banks of the Appalachee river.

Spence said Harrison failed to identify the man and said the leader of the mob was "20 pounds heavier."

The state police leader said he had several other leads, but added that he was getting no co-operation from local authorities.

"We haven't had the racial issue up before until recently," Spence said. "We've been out on things like this before, but never anything like this."

In Atlanta, Governor Ellis Arnall announced he was offering rewards totaling more than $10,000 for a solution of the mob killing of two Negro farm hands and their wives.

Grimly, he said, "I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton county until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers."

Arnall then discussed the case off the record.

TALMADGE'S COMMENT

At Cheyenne, Wyo., where he is vacationing, Talmadge said last night that he had barely had time to read accounts of the shooting. "I think," he said, "such incidents are to be regretted." Beyond that he had no further comment.

Meanwhile, preparations for the burial of Roger Malcolm, his wife, George Dorsey and his wife, victims of the lynching, were attracting scores of visitors to the funeral parlor in which their bodies lie.

Shortly after the shooting was made public yesterday, agents of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation swarmed into the county. In the course of routine work, bullets were taken from the bodies for checking by ballistic experts.

Meanwhile, there were expressions of public concern over the [illegible]

[illegible] Dragon Samuel Green of [illegible] Klan said his organization [illegible] with the [illegible] expected [illegible] Klan chapter in Monroe. I know the Klan had nothing to do with the killings."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through Secretary Walter White in New York, charged in a telegram to Attorney General Tom Clark that reports of actions of officials in Walton county indicated they had knowledge lynchings were to take place.

To this charge, Sheriff E. S. Gordon of Walton county replied, "You just tell 'em it's a damn lie. I don't care who said it."

In Birmingham, Ala., the Southern Negro Youth congress wrote U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark asking that martial law be declared and a house-to-house search conducted for the slayers.

Representative Marcantonio, American Labor of New York, asked President Truman for "prompt" Federal intervention. In a telegram, the New York congressman said "Unless immediate government action is taken, there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbos and Talmadges."

The Maryland conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People also asked Truman to intervene.

The Civil Rights congress in New York was reported to have offered a $1,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of the guilty.

Major William E. Spence of the GBI, (which is patterned after the FBI) after a day and night of intense work suggested that the bloody murders were a "rehearsed affair."

Said Spence: "It looks like it was a rehearsed affair. It looks like it might have been planned since the Negro was first confined to jail."

The GBI head referred to Roger Malcolm, 27, who had been released on a $600 bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, Barney Hester.

The other victims of the mob were Malcolm's wife, George Dorsey and his wife.

Only witness to the multiple slaying was Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer in whose car the Negroes were riding.

Harrison said he was taking the Negroes to his farm to work after obtaining Malcolm's release on bond.

The Walton county farmer said a band of 20 armed and unmasked men waylaid the group as his car approached a bridge. The Negro men, Harrison related, were taken from the car first and their arms bound.

When one of the women suddenly [illegible] knew one of the men, the mob returned and ordered them to accompany their husbands.

Harrison said the four were marched to a clump of bushes and lined up. Then the leader of the mob, who "looked like a retired businessman," counted to three, Harrison said, and the first of several volleys rang out.

Harrison said he made his way to a store and telephoned news of the massacre to Sheriff Gordon. The latter has declared that since Harrison is unable to identify any of the mob, he can do nothing.

Governor Arnall in announcing the rewards said, "As Governor of Georgia, I am offering a reward to the full limit of the law. Five hundred dollars will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of each participant in the massacre. These rewards will total more than $10,000. This lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice."

Ministerial Group Protests Lynching

Charlotte, N. C., Observer
July 30, 1946

34a

A plea to national government officials to do whatever is possible toward finding members of the Georgia mob which killed four Negroes last Thursday and bringing them to justice was made in telegrams sent yesterday by the Charlotte Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance.

The telegrams were sent to President Truman and to Tom Clark, United States attorney general. They were signed by J. W. Smith, president, and E. L. Henderson, secretary, of the organization.

"We have noticed with a feeling of deep concern the lynching of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., July 25," said the telegrams. "We have followed with keen interest the expressed interest and attitude of the American public. It is alarming to see how indifferent and even satisfied the local authorities are regarding the affair.

"Feeling as we do, in the light of previous experience, that the local authorities and the State of Georgia will do nothing to bring to justice these fiendish murderers, we entreat you in the name of Christ and His righteousness to do whatever possible to apprehend these mobsters that they may be brought to the bar of justice."

Picket White House In Lynching Protest

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

WASHINGTON, — (ANP) — The White House was picketed last Wednesday by 24 Negroes urging President Truman to take resolute action to punish the lynchers of two men and their wives in Monroe, Ga., recently. 34a

Headed by Elder Charles Beck, a pittsburgh radio minister, the picketers carried signs denouncing Gov. Elect Eugene Talmadge of Georgia, Sen. Bilbo and Rep. Rankin. One sign read: Sat 8-31-46

"You can run, Bilbo Talmadge and Rankin, but you connot hide."

Talmadge Sorry Arnall Suffers By Lynchings

Courier Journal
Louisville Ky

Monroe, Ga., July 29 (AP)—Eugene Talmadge, who will take over as Georgia's Governor in January, said today the mass lynching of four Negroes here last week was "regrettable" and that during his Administration "such atrocities will be at a minimum."

34a

Talmadge, back after a Western vacation following his selection as the Democratic nominee for Governor in the July 17 primary, tantamount to election, said in a formal statement he was very sorry the lynchings occurred in Governor Ellis Arnall's Administration. Tue 7-30-46

"I sympathize with him and know that it did cause him chagrin and embarrassment," Talmadge said of Arnall.

Lynching Probe Hits Snag Because 'Best People Won't Talk'

Asheville, N. C. Citizen
July 28, 1946

MONROE, Ga., July 27. (AP)—The head of the Georgia state police told newsmen today that he had been hampered in his investigation of the massacre of four negroes near here Thursday because "the best people in town won't talk about this."

34a

"They have an idea who it is," the police head, Maj. William E. Spence said. "We've been out on things like this before, but never anything like this."

"When I get back to town (Atlanta) I'm going to ask the governor to appeal to every congressman to help pass federal legislation against mob violence."

Maj. Spence met newsmen shortly after the release of a man who he said fitted the description of the leader of the armed band which waylaid J. Loy Harrison, a prosperous farmer, and the Negroes on the banks of the Appalachee river.

Spence said Harrison failed to identify the man and said the leader of the mob was "20 pounds heavier."

The state police leader said he had several other leads, but added that he was getting no cooperation from local authorities.

In Atlanta, Gov. Ellis Arnall announced he was offering rewards totaling more than $10,000 for a solution of the mob killing of two Negro farm hands and their wives.

Grimly, he said "I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton county until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers."

Arnall then discussed the case off the record.

At Cheyenne, Wyo., where he is vacationing, Talmadge said last night that he had barely had time to read accounts of the shooting. "I think," he said, "such incidents are to be regretted." Beyond that he had no further comment.

Meanwhile, preparations for the burial of Roger Malcolm, his wife, George Dorsey and his wife, victims of the lynching, were attracting scores of visitors to the funeral parlor in which their bodies lie.

Grand Dragon Samuel Green of the Ku Klux Klan said his organization "had nothing to do" with the mob action, but that he expected Arnall "will try to pin it on us."

Columbus, Ga., Enquirer-Sun
October 3, 1946

Post Corrects Error Naming Monroe County Site of 4 Lynchings

NEW YORK, Oct. 2—(AP)—The Saturday Evening Post, in the Oct. 5, issue distributed today, corrected an error of Aug. 24 placing the lynching of four Negroes in Monroe County, Ga.

34a

"The disgraceful event" the Post said, "occurred in the town of Monroe, which is in Walton County. Residents of Monroe County were naturally ruffled by this error, which crept into several newspapers accounts of the affair and it is no surprise to us that so many Georgia people have taken the trouble to ask the Post to make it clear that the savage murder did not occur in their part of the state."

Monroe County is directly south of Walton County—three counties away.

White Southern Methodists Urge Punishment for Lynchers

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md
Sat. 9-7-46

LAKE JUNALUSKA, N.C. (ANP)—Closing a South-wide missionary conference, a group of white Methodists condemned the recent lynching of four persons near Monroe, Ga., and pledged support of law enforcement agencies in Georgia in bringing the offenders to justice. The resolution said in part:

34a

"This conference, composed of representative ministers of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the Methodist Church, embracing the States of the 'Old South,' reaffirms its faith in that loyalty to the church that speaks in plain language on these matters.

"We condemn with all the fervor of our outraged and deeply stirred souls the ruthless disregard of human life and human rights as manifested in the recent lynching in Walton County, Ga."

7434 full

FBI Probing Massacre Of 4 At Monroe

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Sunday 7-28-46

Nation Aroused By Atrocity; Talmadge Speaks

(Investigation)

34a

Rewards amounting to more than $10,000 were offered by Governor Ellis Arnall Saturday for evidence leading to the apprehension and conviction of the members of the mob that lynched two Negro couples, Thursday afternoon, near Monroe, Ga.

It was estimated that the mob was comprised of 20 armed men, and Governor Arnall offered a reward of $500, which is the limit under the law for each member of the group.

MASS MURDER 7-28-46

Governor Arnall stated:

The decent people of Georgia are humiliated about the mass murder of four Negroes in Walton County by an unknown mob of some 20 desperadoes.

"As governor of Georgia, I am offering a reward to the full limit of the law. Five hundred dollars will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of each participant in the massacre. These rewards will total more than $10,000. This lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice.

DISGRACEFUL INCIDENT

"This mass murder is one of the worst incidents ever to take place in our state. The killing of innocent people is disgraceful morally and legally.

Atlanta, Ga.

"I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton County until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to the law enforcement officers.

"I am urging the local law enforcement officers of Walton County and all state agents to leave nothing undone in ferreting out the guilty parties. Civilized people everywhere will watch developments in connection with this henious crime."

Daily World

"REHEARSED AFFAIR"

Major William E. Spence, head of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, intimated Saturday that the bloody massacre of the four Negroes was a "rehearsed affair."

Major Spence said:

"It looks like it was a rehearsed affair. It looks like it might have been planned since the Negro was first confined to jail."

The GBI head had reference to Roger Malcolm, who was released under bond of $600 on charges of stabbing B. H. Hester, Jr., his employer, on July 14.

Daily World

FBI ACTIVE

34a

From the Atlanta office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, The Atlanta Daily World learned Saturday that at the request of the United States Attorney General, the FBI was going to make a thorough investigation of the lynching.

Atlanta Ga.

Jack Gautier, Macon attorney, was in Monroe Saturday and was quoted as saying that he was interested in determining if there had been a violation of civil rights covered by federal statute.

WIRE PRESIDENT

Congressman Vito Marcantonio of New York wired President Truman, requesting federal action. In his telegram Representative Marcantonio said: "unless immediate Government action is taken there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbos and Talmadges."

7-28-46

Contacted by newsmen at Cheyenne, Wyo., Talmadge was quoted as saying: "I think it will be many, many years before we can give the Negro equal rights. He's bucking up against a civilization thousands of years old, and his civilization has been forced upon him by the white man. Nothing can be gained by giving equal rights to someone with an artificial civilization that has been forced upon him only 150 years."

7-28-46

"INCIDENTS REGRETTED"

When first questioned about the lynching, Talmadge's only comment was that "such incidents are to be regretted."

In his account of the lynching, Loy Harrison, Oconee County farmer told members of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Friday that the mob was led by a tall white man, who appeared to be about 65 years of age. He stated that the leader was attired in a brown suit and had on a big broad-brimmed hat.

Mr. Harrison explained that the mob took the men out of the car and tied their arms behind them, and did not bother the women until one of them recognized a mobster and called his name.

Following the lynching, he says he went to a store about two miles away and called the sheriff, who later came to the scene and found the bodies in some bushes on the side road.

7-28-46

DORSEY A VETERAN

Dorsey and his wife, Mrs. Mae Murray Dorsey, had been living on Mr. Harrison's farm. Dorsey's mother told newsmen that he had just been honorably discharged from the United States Army after overseas service in North Africa and Australia.

Sunday

The Atlanta Daily World learned from reliable sources, Friday, that Roger Malcolm had a good reputation in the community among both white and colored. It was also reported that following the fight with his employer, he was locked up at the request of a white lady, who feared mob violence.

Funeral services for three of the victims will be held today, at Monroe and in Oconee County.

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4 NEGROES SLAIN BY GEORGIA MOB; U.S PLANS PROBE

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
July 27, 1946

34a

MONEROE, Ga., July 26—(AP)—The bloody massacre of two young Negro farm hands and their wives by an armed and unmasked band of white men brought the promise of a federal investigation today.

The ghastly details of the multiple lynching were told by Loy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was taking the Negroes to his farm and who was held at gun point by the mob.

Harrison had come to Monroe from his farm to get Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. He was accompanied by the three other Negroes, Malcolm's wife and George Dorsey and his wife.

The white man and the four Negroes were en route back home in a car when they were waylaid by the mob. Their questioning indicated they were seeking Malcolm. There was no indication why they also took Dorsey out for execution. The women were killed because one of them recognized a member of the mob.

Leader Is Described

Harrison said the band, led by a "tall, dignified-looking white man," lined the Negroes up four abreast, and then to the count of "one, two, three" by the leader, three volleys were fired into the quartet.

"I didn't have anything but a pocket knife," Harrison related. "What could I do?"

Harrison said "most of the men were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me. The leader looked like a retired business man. He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big broad-brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good Florida sun tan."

It was the first lynching of more than one person in Georgia since 1918. Ten Negroes were lynched in Brooks County then. There have been nine instances of multiple lynchings in the state since 1892.

Bodies Found In Bushes

The coroner said that at least 60 bullets were pumped into the bodies of the Negro farm hands and their wives. The grotesquely sprawled bodies were found in a clump of bushes beside a little used side road.

The hands of the two men were bound behind them. The hands of the women were free. The upper part of the bodies were scarcely recognizable from the mass of bullet holes.

The women were sisters.

The stark rural tragedy—first of its kind in Georgia since long before the war—occurred about eight miles from here late yesterday, but the story did not "leak out" until today. Monroe is 40 miles northeast of metropolitan Atlanta.

U. S. Probe Ordered

A few hours later Atty. Gen. Tom Clark's office in Washington announced that a "complete investigation" had been ordered into the multiple lynching.

Without further elaboration, the announcement from Washington said that the federal inquiry would be carried out by the civil rights section of the Department of Justice.

The Negroes were shot by the mob which waylaid them while a white man, driving the farm hands to his farm in an adjoining county, was held at gun point, but unharmed.

One of the Negroes was shot in the back and Coroner W. T. Brown said that this indicated some member of the mob fired at him after he fell from the first fusilade.

The slaughter came as the aftermath of the stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester, 22, a farmer, on July 14. Hester still is in a hospital here.

One Accused In Stabbing

One of the mob victims, Roger Malcolm, 27, had just been released from jail under $600 bond on charges of stabbing Hester, for whom he worked.

The other Negroes who fell at the cold, deliberate fury of the mob were the young Negro farm hand's wife, and another young Negro couple, George Dorsey and his wife.

Dorsey's mother, Monia Williams, said that her son had just been discharged from the service after five years in the Army, including overseas duty in Australia and North Africa. She received his discharge button in the mail this week, she added.

Both the young couples, she said, had married recently.

The details of the killings came from the white man, Loy Harrison, who was taking them to his farm. Harrison said that the women nearly escaped the purpose of the mob.

The Negro men were taken out of the car first and led down the side road. The women were held at the automobile. Then a member of the mob said one of the Negro women had recognized him.

"Get those damned women, too," the mob leader shouted.

Women Dragged From Car

Several of the men then came back and dragged the shrieking women from the automobile. Then, a few moments later, Harrison heard the shots — many of them. The mob dispersed.

The nearest house to the scene was a mile and a half away. Harrison made his way two miles to a country store and called the sheriff. The sheriff came and they found the bodies in the bushes.

The sheriff, E. S. Gordon, said that since Harrison could not identify any member of the band he had gone as far as he could with his investigation. He called in state police.

The lynching was the first in the nation in nearly a year, and was the first multiple lynching since two 14-year-old Negro boys charged with attempted criminal attack were hanged by a Mississippi mob in October, 1942.

Lynchings Decline

Lynchings have steadily declined in the last decade. Last year only one lynching was listed by Tuskegee Institute and it was disputed whether the act, which occurred in Florida, was actually a lynching.

In 1933 there were 28 lynchings in 11 states. By 1939 there were only three lunchings in two states. In 1940 the figure rose to five, but dropped to four in 1941. In 1942 there were five again, in 1943 three, and in 1944 two.

Lynchings have taken a sharp downward curve in the last half century. The all-time high was in 1892 when 231 were recorded, according to the figures of the Southern Regional Council in Atlanta.

Harrison was the only witness to testify at the inquest, which resulted in a verdict of death at the hands of unknown parties. He testified to these edetails:

Harrison Gives Details

With the Negroes in his car, he came to a wooden bridge spanning a river which devides Walton and Oconee Counties. An automobile across the road blocked his passage.

He stopped. Another car drove in behind him. Then another and another. A man who apparently assumed the role of leader of the mob, armed with rifles and shotguns, walked up and said:

"We want Roger."

Harrison answered: "That's not Roger. That's George."

Another mobster put a gun to Harrison's neck, and the leader said:

"This is our party. You keep out of it. We ought to kill you, too."

Then the Negro men were dragged out of the car and bound with ropes and marched off. Then several members of the mob came back and dragged the women down the road.

Federal Authorities To Probe Slaying Of Georgia Negroes

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
July 27, 1946

34a

Monroe, Ga., July 26.—(AP). The slaying of two young negro farm hands and their wives by an armed and unmasked band of white men brought the promise of a federal investigation today.

The details of the multiple lynching were told by Loy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was taking the negroes to his farm and who was held at gun point by the mob.

Harrison had come to Monroe from his farm to get Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. He was accompanied by three other negroes, Malcolm's wife and George Dorsey and his wife.

The white man and the four negroes were en route back home in a car when they were waylaid by the mob. Their questioning indicated they were seeking Malcolm. There was no indication why they also took Dorsey out for execution. The women were killed because one of them recognized a member of the mob.

Harrison said the band, led by a "tall, dignified looking white man" lined the negroes up four abreast, and then to the count of "one, two, three" by the leader, three volleys were fired into the quartet.

"I didn't have anything but a pocket knife," Harrison related. "What could I do?"

Harrison said "most of the men were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me. The leader looked like a retired business man. He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big broad brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good Florida suntan".

It was the first lynching of more than one person in Georgia since 1918. Ten negroes were lynched in Brooks county them. There have been nine instances of multiple lynchings in the state since 1892.

The coroner said that at least 60 bullets were pumped into the bodies of the negro farm hands and their wives. The grotesquely sprawled bodies were found in a clump of bushes beside a little used sideroad.

The hands of the two men were bound. The hands of the women were free. The upper part of the bodies were scarcely recognizable from the mass of bullet holes.

The women were sisters.

The shooting occurred about eight miles from here late yesterday, but the story did not "leak out" until today. Monroe is 40 miles northeast of the metropolitan Atlanta.

A few hours later Attorney General Tom Clark's office in Washington announced that a "complete investigation" had been ordered into the multiple lynching.

Without further elaboration, the announcement from Washington said that the federal inquiry would be carried out by the civil rights section of the department of justice.

The shooting came as the aftermath of the stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester, a farmer, on July 14. Hester is still in a hospital here.

One of the mob victims, Roger Malcolm, 27, had just been released from jail under $600 bond on charges of stabbing Hester, for whom he worked.

The details of the killings came from the white man, Loy Harrison, who was taking them to his farm. Harrison said that the women nearly escaped the purpose of the mob.

The negro men were taken out of the car first and led down the sideroad. The women were held at the automobile. Then a member of the mob said one of the negro women had recognized him.

"Get those damned women, too," the mob leader shouted.

Several of the men then came back and dragged the shrieking women from the automobile. Then, a few moments later, Harrison heard the shots—many of them. The mob dispersed.

The nearest house to the scene was a mile and a half away. Harrison made his way two miles to a country store and called the sheriff. The sheriff came and they found the bodies in the bushes.

She sheriff, E. S. Gordon, said that since Harrison could not identify any member of the band he had gone as far as he could with his investigation. He called in state police.

The lynching was the first in the nation in nearly a year, and was the first multiple lynching since [illegible]-year-old negro boys charged [illegible]

1942.

Lynchings have steadily declined in the last decade. Last year only one lynching was listed by Tuskegee institute and it was disputed whether the act, which occurred in Florida, was actually a lynching.

In 1933 there were 28 lynchings in 11 states. By 1939 there were only three lynchings in two states. In 1940 the figure rose to five, but dropped to four in 1941. In 1942 there were five again, in 1943 three, and in 1944 two.

Lynchings have taken a sharp downward curve in the last half century. The all-time high was in 1892 when 321 were recorded, according to the figures of the Southern Regional council in Atlanta.

Harrison was the only witness to testify at the inquest, which resulted in a verdict of death at the hands of unknown parties.

US to Probe Lynching Of 4 Georgia Negroes

Columbia, S. C., State
July 27, 1946

Monroe, Ga., July 26—(AP)—The bloody massacre of two young Negro farm hands and their wives by an armed and unmasked band of white men brought the promise of a federal investigation today.

The ghastly details of the multiple lynching were ~~told by~~ Loy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was taking the Negroes to ~~his farm~~ and who was held at gun point by the mob.

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Harrison had come to Monroe from his farm to get Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. He was accompanied by the three other Negroes, Malcolm's wife and George Dorsey and his wife.

The white man and the four Negroes were en route back home in a car when they were waylaid by the mob. Their questioning indicated they were seeking Malcolm. There was no indication why they also took Dorsey out for execution. The women were killed because one of them recognized a member of the mob.

Harrison said the band, led by a "tall, dignified-looking white man," lined the Negroes up four abreast, and then to the count of "One, two, three" by the leader, three volleys were fired into the quartet.

"I didn't have anthing but a pocket knife," Harrison related. "What could I do?"

Harrison said, "Most of the men were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me. The leader looked like a retired business man. He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big- broad-brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good Florida suntan."

(Eyewitness Story on Page 10)

It was the first lynching of more than one person in Georgia since 1918. Ten Negroes were lynched in Brooks county then. There have been nine instances of multiple lynchings in the state since 1892.

The corner said that at least 60 bullets were pumped into the bodies of the Negro farm hands and their wives. The grotesquely sprawled bodies were found in a clump of bushes beside a little used sideroad.

The hands of the two men were bound behind them. The hands of the women were free. The upper parts of the bodies were scarcely recognizable from the mass of bullet holes.

The women were sisters.

The stark rural tragedy—first of its kind in Georgia since long before the war—occurred about eight miles from here late yesterday, but the story did not "leak out" until today. Monroe is 40 miles northeast of metropolitan Atlanta.

A few hours later Attorney General Tom Clark's office in Washington announced that a "complete investigation" had been ordered into the multiple lynching.

Without further elaboration, the announcement from Washington said that the federal inquiry would be carried out by the civil rights section of the department of justice.

The Negroes were shot by the mob which waylaid them while a white man, driving the farm hands to his farm in an adjoining county, was held at gun point but unharmed.

One of the Negroes was shot in the back and Coroner W. T. Brown said that this indicated some member of the mob fired at him aftet he fell from the first fusilade.

The slaughter came as the aftermath of the stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester, 22, a farmer, on July 14. Hester is still in a hospital here.

One of the mob victims, Roger Malcolm, 27, had just been released from jail under $600 bond on charges of stabbing Hester, for whom he worked.

The other Negroes who fell at the cold, deliberate fury of the mob were the young Negro farm hand's wife, and another young Negro couple, George Dorsey and his wife.

Dorsey's mother, Monia Williams, said that her son had just been discharged from the service after five years in the army, including overseas duty in Australia and North Africa. She received his discharge button in the mail this week, she added.

Both the young couples, she said, had married recently.

The details of the killings came from the white man, Loy Harrison, who was taking them to his farm. Harrison said that the women nearly escaped the purpose of the mob.

The sheriff, E. S. Gordon, said that since Harrison could not identify any member of the band he had gone as far as he could with his investigation. He called in state police.

The lynching was the first in the nation in nearly a year, and was the first multiple lynching since two 14-year-old Negro boys charged with attempted criminal assault were hanged by a Mississippi mob in October, 1942.

Georgia Lynching Inquiry Pushed

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 21 (AP)—Gov. Ellis Arnall said today that State and Federal police investigating the Monroe, Ga., lynching of four Negroes July 25 were just "hoping for a break."

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He told reporters thatt he Federal Bureau of Investigation had twenty men in Walton County and that the Georgia Bureau of Investigation had twelve ment working there.

Thurs. 8-22-46

The Governor added, however, that the police "have no leads at the moment," but they were "talking to everyone in the county."

He said that "they will stay up there from now on," adding that rewards in the case "now exceed $50,000."

Truman Orders Full Probe Of Georgia Lynching Case

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
July 31, 1946

Washington, July 30.—(AP)—Attorney General Clark announced today that President Truman has expressed "horror" at the lynchings of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., and directed the Justice Department to investigate "with all its resources."

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The Federal inquiry—which Clark said is being carried on "in the tradition of the FBI"—has two aims:

1. To see whether the mob members can be arrested and prosecuted under any Federal statute.

2. To assist Georgia authorities in identifying the members of the mob and prosecuting them under state laws. Clark announced that "the entire record of our investigation will be made available to the Governor of Georgia, if necessary, for proper action of Georgia civil authorities."

Attacks Mo Rule.

Clark expressed "hope for an early solution" of what he called "these shocking murders" and called upon "all our citizens to repudiate mob rule."

Referring to the 20-odd white men who shot the two Negro farm workers, one a veteran, and their wives, last Thursday, Clark said in a statement:

"This crime is an affront to decent Americanism. Only due process of law sustains our claim to orderly self-government. I call upon all our citizens to repudiate mob rule and to assist the authorities to bring these criminals to justice. The lives and liberties of none of us are safe when forces of terror operate outside the la s of God and man."

Later Clark said in a second statement that he had talked with Mr. Truman about the case and that the president "has expressed to me his horror at the crime and his sympathy for the families of the victims."

Asks for Report.

The President Clark said, "has asked that the department report its progress in the investigation and proceed with all its resources to investigate this and any other crimes of oppression so as to ascertain if any federal statute can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals."

In his first statement, Clark said the Justice Department has received "hundreds of telegrams and letters from public-spirited citizens and civic, religious, labor and veterans organizations from all sections of the nation deploring and protesting the recent mass murder in Monroe, Ga." He added:

"The Federal Bureau of Investigation has a sufficient force of agents on hand to provide a thorough probe and the civil rights section of the Department of Justice is examining the legal and jurisdictional aspects of the case.

"The probe is being carried on in the tradition of the FBI—with dispatch, efficiency and determination. The full facilities of the Department of Justice are behind this investigation."

Parade in Protest.

Meanwhile, a group of 50 women paraded before the White House protesting the slayings. They paraded under the auspices of the National Association of Colored Women and carried signs such as "America, our home, let it be known lynching must cease."

In Atlanta, two large groups of ministers protested the lynching. Episcopal ministers issued a statement saying "we can think of no atrocity in this generation of our state quite so loathsome and ominous."

Seventy-one Methodist ministers adopted a resolution saying in part: "We have just recently sent millions of the flower of our young manhood to Europe and to Asia to stamp out Naziism whose habit has been to take the law into its own hands and murder helpless people. Now, in Georgia, something closely akin to Naziism in Europe and Asia has arisen and in every sense it is just as brutal."

At Monroe, Maj. William E. Spence, head of the Georgia bureau of investigation, said a solution would require long and careful police work.

BIRMINGHAM, — (ANP)—Atty. Gen. Tom Clark was urged to direct a house to house search for the killers in white communities in Walton county, Ga., and to establish martial law during this period of tension, by the Southern Negro Youth congress.

Oklahoma City

Declaring that "each outrage against the "lives, liberties and constitutional rights of Negroes has elicited from you (the attorney general) a pat comment that 'a complete investigation is being made," the SNYC further demanded that Loy Harrison, employer of the four victims, be held as an accomplice as long as he withholds information.

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The communication, signed by Esther V. Cooper, executive secretary of SNYC, the message asserted:

"In awaiting your reply, we are one with the people of America who hate murder and savagery enough to fight against it."

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full

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
Aug. 2, 1946

Georgia Lynch Rewards Reach $22,500 Total

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MONROE, Ga., Aug.1 (UP) — Rewards for the arrest of the white men who lynched four Negroes in Walton County last week increased to $22,500 today as Solicitor Gen. Marshall Pollock deplored a spreading impression that local authorities are not cooperating in the hunt.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People offered rewards totaling $10,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the lynching party members, almost matching the $10,500 posted by the state of Georgia.

The NAACP stated in New York that it had given to the Justice Department evidence "pointing to the guilt of certain of the mob leaders."

Walton citizens are "shocked and grieved at the wanton act of a few," he said. He explained that the first act of local authorities when the slaying was discovered was to notify the GBI and the FBI, realizing that they themselves were "manifestly unable to cope with the situation because they lacked the necessary training and facilities."

Meanwhile, Gov. Ellis Arnall telegraphed his thanks to President Truman for the cooperation of the Federal government in the drive to solve the lynching. He sent similar telegrams to Atty. Gen. Tom Clark and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

Columbia, S. C., Record
Aug. 1, 1946

Reward Nears $30,000 In Lynching Case

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MONROE, Ga., Aug. 1—(AP)—Rewards for arrest and conviction of the mobsters who shot four Negroes to death by a country roadside near here neared $30,000 today as private organizations augmented the fund started by the state.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced in New York last night that it was offering $10,000, matching the reward offered by Gov. Ellis Arnall shortly after the July 25 lynchings.

The National Maritime Union (CIO) added $5,000 in honor of "6,000 seamen who died in World War II."

Shortly before announcement of the rewards, Maj. William E. Spence of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation circulated handbills in this area advising that $14,000 had been offered for the convictions.

Walter White, secretary of the NAACP who announced the reward, said NAACP investigators here had evidence pointing to guilt of some of the mob leaders and this had been turned over to the department of justice.

REWARD BOOSTED IN LYNCHING CASE

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
Aug. 1, 1946

NAACP Adds $10,000 to Georgia Fund; Arnall Thanks Truman for Aid

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Monroe, Ga., July 31.—(U.P.)—Rewards for the arrest of the white men who lynched four Negroes in Walton County last week increased to $20,500 today as Solicitor General Marshall Pollock deplored a spreading impression that local authorities are not cooperating in the hunt.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People offered rewards totaling $10,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the lynching party members, almost matching the $10,500 posted by the State of Georgia.

The NAACP stated in New York that it had given to the Justice Department evidence "pointing to the guilt of certain of the mob leaders."

Pollock, who is attached to superior court here, commented on reported charges by Maj. W. E. Spence, chief of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, that "the best citizens of the county refuse to help us in the case."

Spence has since "corrected the misquotations," Pollock said, but the impression is still spreading.

Walton citizens are "shocked and grieved at the wanton act of a few," he said. He explained that the first act of local authorities when the slaying was discovered was to notify the GBI and the FBI, realizing that they themselves were "manifestly unable to cope with the situation because they lacked the necessary training and facilities."

"As the investigation continues," he said, "we ask only that we not be pre-judged and that we be given an opportunity to justify the faith that many have expressed in us that the principles of law and humanity will be upheld."

Meanwhile, Gov. Ellis Arnall telegraphed his thanks to President Truman for the cooperation of the Federal government in the drive to solve the lynching. He sent similar telegrams to Attorney General Tom Clark and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

Birmingham, Ala., News
July 27, 1946

Reward Of $10,000 Offered In Georgia Massacre Of Negroes

Investigation, Martial Law Asked In Mob's Bloody Slaying Of Four

34a Ga.

ATLANTA, July 27—(AP)—Gov Ellis Arnall today offered rewards totaling more than $10,000 for solution of the out-of-hand mob slaying in Walton County of two Negro farm hands and their wives.

The usually cheerful state executive grimly told newsmen at a special press conference that he was ordering the state police to remain in the county "until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers."

Meanwhile, in Monroe, near the scene of the slayings Maj. William E. Spence, head of the state police, told newsmen "We are working on something now, it may pan out or not."

Spence refused to elaborate, but said he was leaving immediately to question Loy Harrison, who was forced by the mob to witness the slayings.

Harrison was at his farm in an adjoining county.

The massacre was the outgrowth of the stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester, a farmer, on July 14. One of the victims, Malcolm, had just been released from jail where he had been held on charges of stabbing Hester, for whom he worked.

Harrison posted the bond for Malcolm. Hester is in the hospital here recovering from his wounds.

The governor said "the decent people of Georgia are humiliated about the mass murder of four Negroes in Walton County by an unknown mob of some 20 desperadoes.

"AS GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA I am offering a reward to the full limit of the law. Five hundred dollars will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of each participant in the massacre. These rewards will total more than $10,000. The lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice."

The governor added "this mass murder is one of the worst incidents ever to take place in our state. The killing of innocent people is disgraceful morally and legally.

"I am urging the local law enforcement officials of Walton County and all state agents to leave nothing undone in ferreting out the guilty parties. Civilized people everywhere will watch developments in connection with this heinous crime."

Arnall's statement followed a suggestion from the head of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation that the shootings near Monroe, 40 miles from Atlanta, was a "rehearsed affair."

Maj. William E. Spence, of the GBI, said:

"It looks like it was a rehearsed affair. It looks like it might have been planned since the Negro was first confined to jail."

He referred to Roger Malcolm, 27-year-old Negro who had made bond on a charge of stabbing his employer, a white man. Malcolm, his wife, and George Dorsey and his wife were the mob's victims.

Although an announcement from Washington said the Federal Bureau of Investigation would investigate the case for the civil rights section of the Justice Department, an assistant district attorney said:

"So far it seems to be a state case."

* * *

THE ATTORNEY, Jack Gautier, of Macon, said he came here to try to determine if there had been any violation of civil rights covered by federal statute.

The only comment on the lynching to come from Eugene Talmadge, recently nominated for a fourth term as Georgia's governor on a "white supremacy" platform, was that "such incidents are to be regretted."

Talmadge is vacationing in Cheyenne, Wyo.

Rep. Marcantonio (A. L., N. Y.) asked President Truman for "prompt" federal intervention.

In a telegram to Truman, Marcantonio said, "Unless immediate government action is taken, there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbos and Talmadges."

* * *

THE DETAILS OF THE GHASTLY LYNCHING was related by Loy Harrison, a well-to-do farmer who was held at gun point by the mob. He was taking the four Negroes to his farm to work after getting Malcolm out on bond.

Harrison said the band of 20 armed and unmasked men which waylaid them was led by a "tall, dignified white man" who counted "one, two, three" as three volleys were fired into the Negroes, lined up abreast.

"The leader looked like a retired business man," he said. "He was about 65, wore a brown suit and had on a big broad-brimmed hat. He looked like he had a good Florida suntan."

The mob, he said, first took the Negro men out of the car and bound their arms behind them. Then, when one of the women recognized a member of the mob, several men came and took them too, he said.

The lynching was the first in the South in a year. In recent years lynchings have steadily declined almost to the vanishing point. There

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Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 4, 1946

Negro Youth Congress Asks For Martial Law

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The Southern Negro Youth Congress in a letter to Atty. Gen. Clark Saturday asked for declaration of martial law in Walton and surrounding counties in Georgia and a house to house search for the slayers of four Negroes.

The letter, signed by Executive Secretary Esther V. Cooper, of Birmingham, referred to the "cold-blooded mob murder of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., on July 25," and said:

"We declare that the government which cannot prevent or — failing to prevent—to punish such downright bestiality, can only earn the most determined contempt and organized opposition of freedom loving Americans."

Nashville, Tenn., Banner
Aug. 1, 1946

$30,000 Rewards Posted for Arrest Of Georgia Mob

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Monroe, Ga., Aug. 1—(UP)—Rewards for arrest and conviction of the mobsters who shot four Negroes to death by a country roadside near here neared $30,000 today as private organizations augmented the fund started by the state.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced in New York last night that it was offering $10,000, matching the reward offered by Gov. Ellis Arnall shortly after the July 25 lynchings.

The National Maritime Union (CIO) added $5,000 in honor of "6,000 seamen who died in World War II."

Shortly before announcement of the rewards, Maj. William E. Spence of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation circulated handbills in this area advising that $14,000 had been offered for the convictions.

Walter White, secretary of the NAACP who announced the reward, said NAACP investigators here had evidence pointing to guilt of some of the mob leaders and this had been turned over to the Department of Justice.

Unverified reports said the FBI was adding 25 agents to the reported 12 now on the case. President Truman has directed the Department of Justice to use all its resources to arrest the men who killed the Negroes, one of whom had just been released from jail where he was charged with stabbing his white employer. The other three, including two women, were accompanying him home.

Film stars add $1,000 to lynch reward

Tribune
Los Angeles, California
Sept 19 - 46

Winsome Lena Horne, speaking as a Negro mother, evoked the sympathies of Hollywood film notables for the plight of terrorized Negroes last week to the extent that the stars wired $1,000 to Governor Arnall, of Georgia to swell his state's $10,000 reward offered for information in the Malcolm-Dorsey lynchings.

The money was donated by the lengthy titled Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, of which actor Albert Dekker is president. An overflow audience of 600 at the Hollywood Masonic Temple heard Miss Horne in what was the principal speech of the evening.

As a Negro mother of two, the pretty actress said she feared "for the safety of my children and all Negro children." Reading a list of lynchings and recent murders of Negroes she commented further, "When such things are going on, I no longer feel there is a place of refuge for us in the United States unless these things can be stopped."

A wire was sent by the committee to President Truman urging

LYNCHERS

Here's hoping the reward of $10,000 offered by Governor Arnall for the arrest of those twenty Georgia lynchers will be collected to the last cent. But isn't $500 a head a pretty stiff bounty to pay for vermin?

him to "exercise the executive powers of your office to end bloodshed." Another was addressed to Senator Sheridan Downey asking the establishment of a Senate investigating committee to "probe all persons, organizations and forces who bear responsibility for these outrages". Further action taken included wiring Attorney General Tom Clark, commending his investigation of the Ku Klux Klan in six states and pressing him to use his authority "to guarantee full protection for all Negro citizens and restoration of their legal rights."

Cordele, Ga., News
Aug. 1, 1946

Lynch Reward Skyrockets

34a

MONROE, Ga., Aug. 1 (UP)—Georgia and Federal officers working together on last week's lynching of four Georgia Negroes were reported today to be close to a solution of the crime.

There was no confirmation of this report from the F. B. I., or from Major William Spence, head of the Georgia Bureau of Investiation.

Rewards in the case now are up to $31,500. observers in Monroe, Georgia, said all appearances point to an early break.

The bounty on the heads of the men who shot down two Negro men and their wives last Thursday has more than doubled since yesterday. At that time $10,000 had been offered by the State of Georgia, and $2,500 by other organizations.

Last night, the National Association for the advancement of colored people offered another $10,000. The National Maritime Union added five thousand. The Chicago Defender, a Negro newspaper, offered another two thousand dollars. And this morning the Southern Regional Council reports that it is doubling it's contribution to the reward fund, from $500 to $1,000.

In Monroe, Spence said his men and the F. B. I. agents are working together, sharing information and checking one another's progress. It's said that [illegible] I. has added 25 agents [illegible] 12 it already had on the scene. Spence has six of the [illegible] I.'s seven investigators on

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Atlanta, Ga. Journal
July 28, 1946

Eye Witness Fails to Identify State Police's First Suspect

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MONROE, Ga., July 27.—Major W. E. Spence, director of the Georgia Department of Public Safety Saturday night appealed for a Federal anti-lynching law as investigators into Thursday's brutal massacre of two Negro farmhands and their wives encountered a wall of silence despite offers of rewards totaling more than $12,500.

Shortly after the only known eyewitness to the crime failed to identify a suspect as the leader of the armed band, Major Spence declared:

"We need federal backing. With conditions that now exist in Georgia we can't cope with them."

Anti-Lynch Law Urged

The first suspect to be linked with the quadruple lynching was quickly exonerated when J. Loy Harrison, prosperous Oconee County farmer and the only eyewitness, failed to identify him as the leader of the mob which surrounded his automobile late Thursday, marched the Negroes a short distance down a lonely dirt road and shot them down with military precision.

Major Spence announced he was prepared to urge passage of a Federal anti-lynch law and would lay his case before Governor Ellis Arnall as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, the Governer expressed a determination to apprehend the armed but unmasked mob and deliver them to local authorities for trial. He announced Saturday the State would pay $500 for each of the approximately 20 slayers—the maximum reward authorized by law. He pointed out the total will be more than $10,000.

Other rewards were offered by the Civil Rights Congress in New York, $1,000; the Southern Regional Council, a bi-racial organization, $500, and the American Civil Liberties Union, $1,000.

The first arrest came Saturday when Major Spence took into custody a beer hall employe who, he said, fitted the description given by Mr. Harrison of the leader of the mob.

'Afraid to Talk'

Mr. Harrison was brought to confront the suspect but announced the gang's leader was "20 pounds heavier."

The crime occurred on a rural road leading from Monroe into the rich Oconee County farmlands across the Appalachee River. The river forms the boundary between Oconee and Walton Counties.

It was at the bridge spanning this stream, Mr. Harrison told investigators, that his automobile was blocked by another vehicle and a large group of men emerged from the undergrowth to surround him and the four Negroes.

A member of the mob held him at gunpoint while the others bound the hands of the Negro men and then marched them and their wives a short distance away and shot them to death.

All four bodies were riddled, a large number of bullets entering the backs of the victims.

Obviously discouraged at the collapse of his first definite "lead," Major Spence painted a gloomy picture of prospects for a solution to the bloody assassinations unless investigators can obtain greater help from local citizens.

"Even the best people of the county seem afraid to talk and can't help us," he said.

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Boy May Identify

Authorities counted only a few meager clues as they delved into the case. Among these were several short lengths of rope used to bind the hands of the men, lead bullets removed from the bodies and the description of the leader given by Mr. Harrison, whom he described as six feet three inches tall, weighing about 220 pounds and between 65 and 70 years of age.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation head said that his investigators had also found a 12-year-old boy who lived near the scene and that he said he heard two cars go down the road an hour before the time of the lynching and then heard two or three shots.

The boy also told officers, Major Spence said, that he saw Mr. Harrison driving a car with some Negroes in it, and that there was another car right behind it.

Major Spence quoted the boy as saying he thought he could identify one of the men in the car. The director did not give the names of the boy and his father.

When asked about the boy's statement, Mr. Harrison said, according to Major Spence, that he had seen one car trailing him, but that it was some distance back and he saw it only one time.

Major Spence announced that, upon his return to Atlanta, he would ask Governor Arnall to "wire every congressman we have and even the President to ask for Federal legislation on mob violence."

Grimly, the Chief Executive pointed to newspaper reports of the crime. He said, "I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton County until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers."

The Governor, whose term expires January 4, 1947, almost injected the recent political campaign in which the chief issue was "white supremacy" into the special press conference.

Changes Subject

He started to comment on the fact that the crime followed on the heels of the recent nomination of Eugene Talmadge, but quickly changed the subject.

The only comment from Mr. Talmadge was that "such incidents are to be regretted." Mr. Talmadge is vacationing in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Meanwhile, preparations for the burial of Roger Malcolm, his wife, George Dorsey and his wife, victims of the incident, were attracting scores of visitors to the funeral parlor in which their bodies lie.

A steady stream of people entered the undertaking establishment throughout the day to view the bullet-riddled bodies.

Told by an Associated Press reporter that the National Association for Advancement of Colored People had charged that local police ordered all Negroes off the streets prior to the slayings, Sheriff E. S. Gordon commented:

"You just tell 'em it's a damn lie, I don't care who said it."

Public Is Concerned

Meanwhile, there were expressions of public concern over the slayings.

In Birmingham, Ala., the Southern Negro Youth Congress wrote U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark asking that martial law be declared in Walton County and a house-to-house search conducted for the slayers.

Representative Marcantonio (American Labor, New York) asked President Truman for "prompt" federal intervention. In a telegram to the President, the New York congressman said "unless immediate government action is taken, there will be a repetition of lynchings as a result of recent incitement to violence made by Bilbos and Talmadges."

The Maryland conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People also asked President Truman to intervene.

Recounting the massacre, Mr. Harrison said he was taking the Negroes to his farm to work after obtaining Malcolm's release on bond.

The Oconee County farmer said a band of 20 armed and unmasked men waylaid the group as his car aproached a bridge. The Negro men, Mr. Harrison related, were taken from the car first and their arms bound.

When one of the women suddenly remarked that she knew one of the men, one of the mob returned and ordered both women to accompany their husbands.

Mr. Harrison said the four were marched to a clump of bushes and lined up. Then the leader of the mob who "looked like a retired businessman" counted to three, Harrison said, and the first of several volleys rang out.

Busy in Monroe

Major Spence was busy Saturday at Monroe, running down all possible clues to the identity of the leader and other members of the murder gang.

Shortly before noon, he spent several minutes giving quiet, implicit orders to Walton County deputies sheriff as well as to the four members of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation who are working directly under his command.

NMU Offers $5,000 Reward For Lynchers

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Sat. 8-3-46

NEW YORK — The National Maritime Union Friday had offered a $5000 reward for the apprehension and conviction of those responsible for the lynching of four Negroes in Monroe, Georgia last week.

The posting of this reward was taken at a meeting of the National Office of the union upon the recommendation of the union's membership in Savannah, Georgia.

In a telegram to President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark, the National Office of the NMU declared "We are shocked by the Administration's weak-kneed approach toward the rising tide of American fascism evident in the latest bestial lynchings in Georgia and Mississippi," and urged the President to secure immediate passage of anti-lynching legislation.

"Forthright, vigorous intervention by the Federal Government is imperative to halt the Gestapo attacks upon minority groups thruout the country," the union said.

LYNCH REWARD NOW $64,000

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 8-24-46

34a

With the addition of a $5,000 reward, posted by J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler of the IBPOEW and the posting of another of $1,000 by the Los Angeles County Democratic Committee, the total sum offered for the arrest and conviction of the mob members who murdered four Negroes, July 25 in Monroe, Ga., has reached $64,000.

Mr. Wilson posted the $5,000 reward in the name of the Grand Lodge of the IBPOEW. The Los Angeles Democrats offered their reward during a meeting chaired by Rollin McNitt, at which a resolution was drafted for action at a later meeting in which the Senate will be called upon not to seat [illegible] Senator Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi.

Negroes Seek Reward Fund

Louisville, Ky.
Courier-Journal

34a

Atlanta, Aug. 2 (AP)—Fifteen hundred Georgia Negroes met last night and voted to launch a campaign to raise $100,000 for use as rewards for the apprehension of those persons responsible for the Monroe, Ga., lynching and any future lynchings in the State.

At the organization meeting the Negroes agreed to post $10,000 of the amount raised for the arrest and conviction of the 20 armed men who killed four Negroes about 10 days ago at Monroe, Ga.

This would bring the total rewards for a solution of the Monroe killings to $40,000. The total includes $2,000 offered by The Chicago Defender, Negro newspaper, and $106 raised at a meeting of the Jacksonville chapter of the American Veterans Committee.

Sat 8-4-46

The Georgia campaign will be pressed through Negro churches and fraternal organizations. The meeting was held at a Baptist church.

Names Two Witnesses To Georgia Lynching

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.

DULUTH, MINN. — (ANP) — Two of three names of witnesses to the mass lynching in Monroe, Ga., on July 25 were revealed here Labor day by the Rev. Clarence T. R. Nelson, pastor of Camphor Memorial Methodist church of St. Paul, during an address before CIO and Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen representatives in the Steelworkers Union hall.

Speaking on the subject "The Georgia Pattern in Duluth," Rev. Nelson said the witnesses were Willie Johnson, who formerly lived near Macon, Ga., Roy Green and another man. Their sworn statements on the lynching have been turned over to the NAACP and the Workers Defense league in Newark, Rev. Nelson revealed.

In telling about the merciless beating of an Indian on the streets of Duluth by a white man, Rev. Nelson said: Fri. 9-20-46

"The Georgia pattern in Duluth is in the fact that it isn't important when an Indian is unmerciifully beaten on the streets just as it is not important in the minds of believers of white supremacy in Georgia when four Negroes are killed for no reason at all, except to keep the Negro in an inferior status.

"In Georgia, the Negro suffers from segregation; in Duluth, he suffers from discrimination. Both segregation and discrimination are parts of the same monster-prejudice. For the most part Negroes in Duluth are to be found employed in menial and unskilled jobs, as he is in most northern cities and towns, including my own city, St. Paul."

He said he would use the subject "The Georgia Pattern in St. Paul" if he were speaking in St. Paul and appealed to labor unions to wage a drive against bigotry. He scored the 79th congress for its failure to pass legislation for the common man such as the Wagner Murray- Dignell Health bill, the FEPC, anti-poll tax bills and other needed "legislation for the good of the majority of the citizens of the nation."

The 79th congress, he said, was "almost totally to the effect of making the rich richer and the poor poorer."

After reviewing racial prejudice here and in Georgia, he stressed the fact that none of the Georgia lynchers has been arrested, although the FBI and the GBI have been supplied with information of the mobsters and more than $100,000 reward has been raised.

Duluth Cleric Shows Up FBI

Defender

Names Two Who Saw Monroe Massacre

Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 9-21-46

DULUTH, Minn.—(ANP)—With a 35-man team from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that has a reputation for finding a needle in a haystack, prowling about the scene of the Monroe, Ga., lynching party, July 25, a sensation was created here Labor Day when a minister of no investigative experience revealed the names of two witnesses to the barbaric demonstration.

Named by the minister, Rev. T. R. Nelson, pastor of Camphor Memorial Methodist Church, as witnesses of the lynching of four Negroes, were Willie Johnson, who formerly lived near Macon, Ga., and Roy Green. Sworn statements from each of the two are in the hands of NAACP officials, he declared.

The name of a third witness, he said, was unknown to him.

The disclosure was made by the minister as a part of an address before the CIO and Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen representatives at the Steelworkers Union hall.

The Monroe massacre, one of the worst in the long, black history of lynching in the United States, is unsolved after almost two months, with no arrests.

A regiment of FBI agents, who are supposed to be the world's best human bloodhounds, and the GBI, a state outfit with FBI training, have been, they admit, unable to uncover the first lead to the identity of the lynchers who performed their gruesome job unmasked, under a brilliant Georgia sun.

Even the normal desire for wealth has been no inspiration, since $100,000 rewards await the person providing information leading to the identity of the lynchers.

In discussing the Georgia Pattern in Duluth, Reverend Nelson cited the merciless beating of an Indian on the streets of this city by a white man, then said:

"The Georgia pattern in Duluth is in the fact that it isn't important when an Indian is unmercifully beaten on the streets just as it is not important in the minds of believers of white supremacy in Georgia when four Negroes are killed for no reason at all, except to keep the Negro in an inferior status.

"In Georgia, the Negro suffers from segregation; in Duluth, he suffers from discrimination."

Unshaken in Long Grilling

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Says He's Willing to Return to Georgia

Sat. 8-10-46

STORY SUPPORTED

No Shells Found at Reported Mob Scene

NEW YORK — Will Johnson, 55-year-old tenant farmer, who while fleeing the terrorism sweeping Georgia in the wake of Gene Talmadge's election, witnessed the July 26 massacre of four persons there, for two days last week underwent a gruelling questioning by FBI agents.

Johnson, who boldly says he will return to Georgia to testify against the lynchers, provided he is given Federal protection, could not be shaken from his story that he and a companion, Leroy Greene, were concealed in the woods 60 feet away, when the lynchers poured 60 rounds of lead into the bodies of Roger Malcolm and George Dorsey and their wives.

He persisted in his contention that the massacre did not occur eight miles out of Monroe, Ga., as first reported, but actually was on a lonely cross-roads spot about 30 miles South of Augusta, Ga.

No Shells Found

Observers were of the opinion that Johnson's story was supported by the fact that no lead pellets or shotgun shells were found at the reported scene of the lynching, although several members of the mob were known to have used these weapons.

FBI agents were placed in touch with Johnson through the national office of the NAACP, after the sharecropper was turned over to that office early Thursday by O. S. McCollum, editor-manager of the New Jersey AFRO-AMERICAN. McCollum discovered the frightened witness in Newark, N.J. the week previous.

Johnson, it was learned, was able to give Department of Justice officials, accurate descriptions of the mob members, which may lead to their arrest. Details of his statement were not released to the press for obvious reasons.

Greene on Long Island

Leroy Greene, who accompanied Johnson on his flight from the Bibb County, Ga., farm, was said to be working on a Long Island peach farm. The two were partners on a tenant farm, when they decided to vote in the Georgia primary, casting their ballots against Talmadge.

Five days later on July 23, according to Johnson, a crowd of white men led by an intoxicated overseer, came to their cabin and began abusing Greene. Greene escaped, followed closely by Johnson.

After seeing their families to safety in nearby Macon, Ga., the men continued their flight by walking and hitch-hiking out of Georgia. They were in the woods eating lunch when they witnessed the massacre, both contend.

Meanwhile, the first indication that the mob may not have been led by a resident of the Monroe community, leaked out Sunday, when it became known that investigators had their eye on an Atlanta saloon "bouncer" who fits the description of the "dignified countryman' who gave the execution orders.

Top Klan Official

The suspect, not yet under arrest, is said to be one of the top officials in the revived Georgia Ku Klux Klan, and his arrest is expected to set off a series of State-wide demonstrations on the part of Klansmen.

"I will go back and help clear up the lynchings of those four people if I have any backing," Johnson had previously told AFRO newsmen. Afro-American

A man of slight stature, graying a little, Mr. Johnson puffed his cigarette which he held firmly between his fingers. He opened wide, his big friendly eyes and hunched his slightly rounded shoulders.

"No," he said, "Hickson's farm was not the worst place for a sharecropper to make a living. I did pretty good some years; sold the crop and paid the owners half and got a little profit.

Don't Want You to Vote

"It's just that they don't want you to vote and be a man."

He was dressed in a well-laundered sports shirt and a pair of old trousers given him by a benefactor who gave him shelter on his arrival in Newark.

He told how he fled Georgia as a consequence of voting recently. He wore no socks and his feet were encased in dress shoes that had seen much walking along country roads and through dense woods and muddy swamps.

Correct Lynching Scene

He told how he fled Georgia as a consequence of voting recently, and how he and his companion witnessed the brutal lynching while on their way North.

He wore no socks and his feet were encased in dress shoes that had seen much walking along country roads and through woods.

He talked slowly and with care as he maintained that the four Georgia lynch victims were shot down much closer to Augusta than at the scene at Monroe where the lynching was reported and the bodies were found.

"No," he emphasized, "they just don't want you to be a man."

No Regret for Leaving

Left behind on RFD Route 1, five miles from Macon, he declared, were his mule, cow, the cotton crop, and the water melons cantaloupe and garden stuff he planted and would not reap.

Left behind also were 70 chickens, furniture, car, two hogs and home-cured meat, canned fruits and vegetables.

Mr. Johnson said he had no regret because God might have marked him, an humble sharecropper, to help arouse the conscience, protest and action needed to bring democracy to Georgia.'

Boyhood Ambitions

Fair treatment, he asserted, was something that his father and mother had longed for, that he wanted for himself through the years, and that he wants brought to his son, 17, and daughter, 16, who attends Voorhees Industrial School, Denmark, S.C.

He longed for a better life and better opportunity as a kid, he recalled, and managed to stay at Voorhees for a term and a half after going there with only two years of training at a rural school near Blacksville, S.C.

Recalls Bonus Army

His father died while he was 13 years old, and he had to go back to do a man's work at the Old Jackson Johnson farm. Six years ago his mother died in South Carolina, and two brothers also died since 1927.

"Times are different now," commented Mr. Johnson, a veteran of World War 1, who served six months at old Camp Jackson, and was chased out of Washington, D.C., with other former soldiers in the "bonus army" during the closing period of the Hoover regime. Baltimore, Md.

Tyranny Revealed

"Our people voted when the government said they were going to be allowed to vote this year," he stated. Sat. 8-10-46

"Of course, lots of them were scared away from voting, and some voted for Talmadge (Gene Talmadge, winner of the Democratic primary for a four-year term), because the white people told them they didn't know what they were doing.

"The young crowd and the veterans are not scared like our folks use to be, and they voted although many were beaten. I saw two train load coming North at Camden S.C."

Farm Slavery

Mr. Johnson drew hard on his cigarette, exhaled, and continued:

"On the farms and in the small places they (native fascists) will beat and kill some and drive some of their labor away, but the people want to vote and will."

He thinks that there is a sizeable minority of white Southerners who want decent treatment and the right to vote and better education for colored people.

Yet, he observed, when crops need picking in many of the small communities, the landowners and overseers don't hesitate to see that school children are pulled from classes until the work is done.

Sharecropper's Plight

Mr. Johnson first worked the Joe Phillips farm near Blacksville, Ga., when he went completely on his own. Eight years ago, he went to the Hickson farm near Macon and turned out eight to 12 bales of cotton a year.

The price was as low as 20 cents and as high as 37 cents last year, when he sold on futures (a price based on estimated later value), when price went up to 40 cents and above.

Of course, the owner got half for furnishing land and half for the fertilizer, but he did not do as badly as many sharecroppers and tenants because his cow, pigs, chickens, and the produce he sold helped to even things up.

Fled Stark Terror

Mr. Johnson said he left Georgia because his overseer, George W. Stokes, and a group of associates struck his friend, Leroy Green, and were "after him because he voted.

"I was scared down there when I had no protection," he admitted.

"Now I'm not scared of anything because my wife and children are safe and I know I can be protected.

"When I was ready to leave Camden, S.C., on a train, my old pastor, the Rev. C. W. Francis, was crying and I was crying while we shook hands. He said that maybe God picked me to help my people a little."

Eyewitness of Ga. Lynching Determined to Abet Justice

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 8-10-46

By SAMUEL HOSKINS

NEWARK — Throughout six days of intensive questioning by AFRO staff members, Willie Johnson, Bibb County sharecropper, doggedly maintained that he witnessed the four Georgia lynchings on July 26.

During the entire time his moods were unpredictable. It was impossible to tell what he was likely to say, do, or desire, whether he would be nervous or calm, normal or depressed.

On July 30, when he first came into the AFRO office he appeared less disturbed.

Repeats Lynch Story

He talked with apparent ease and answered all questions readily.

except the ticklish subject of the whereabouts of his family.

But with assurance that the place would not be revealed, he was calm again. More than once he pointed to a map and indicated the place, marking the State and town.

When not answering questions, he seemed content to sit and remain quiet. On the night of July 30, he went to a room obtained for him. "I slept as sound as a log," he said the next day.

Then he told his story again, filling in a few more details and adding other incidents he had experienced or seen or heard of in the South.

At intervals, he was almost jovial, only to launch into bitter criticism of the mob a few minutes later. Then he would tell of his devotion to the Baptist church and how he once was a sinner but now he had changed.

He talked about his wife and his children, always ending the comments with the question, "I wonder what they're doing now?"

34a

Little Appetite

On Wednesday, he was restless and insisted on walking the streets. He said he wasn't hungry when asked whether he wanted to eat. He had to be literally led to a restaurant, but would eat no main dish except fish. Afro American

During the meal, he remarked several times that he dreamed of his wife the night before. He was talkative, but before the meal was over he broke down and cried.

He insisted that he was willing to go back to Georgia and point out the spot of the mass murders if he could get the necessary backing. Baltimore, Md.

"We got a start now and we got to keep driving. We got to drive and drive," he said again and again. Sat. 8-10-46

Later the same day, he wept when retelling his story so an affidavit could be notarized.

Thursday, he confessed that because he was nervous and upset he had slipped out and had a drink. "My nerves were shot," he explained.

No Complaint of Loss

Johnson said that when he left Georgia he left all of his possessions behind — his crop, household goods, hogs, cattle, chickens and friends.

He was not heard to complain about this once during the entire time he was under observation however. Nor did he ask what could be done about his being run out of the State because he voted

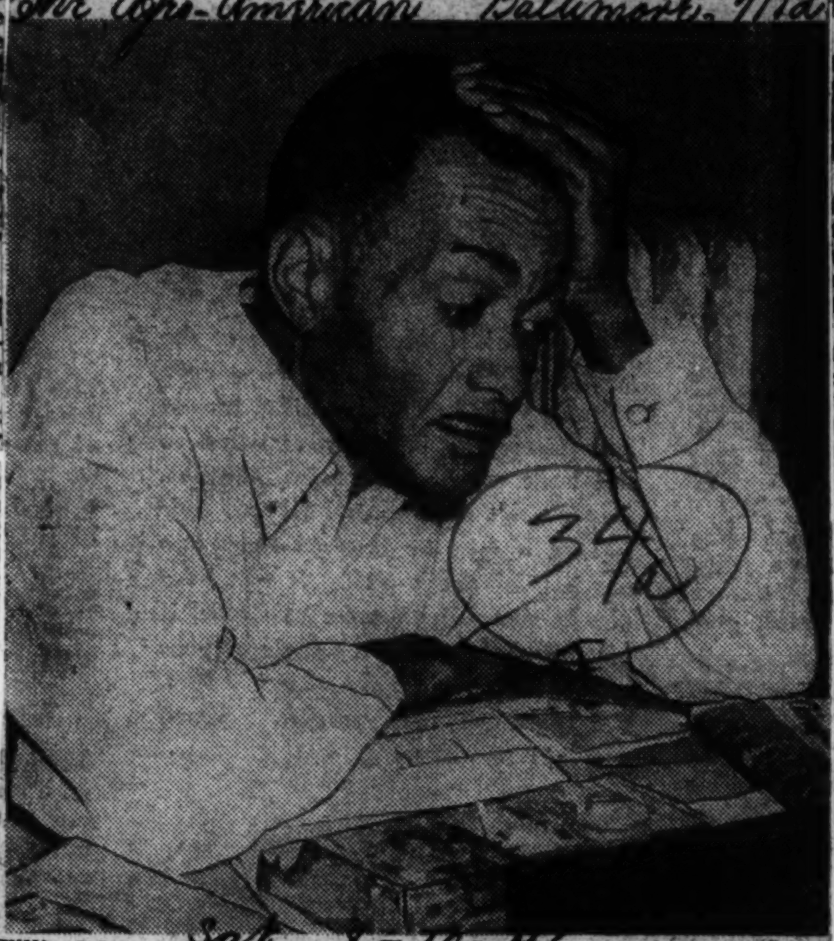
Becomes Mysterious

Thursday and Friday, he was questioned by NAACP representatives and by FBI agents. Saturday he was uncommunicative and mysterious.

"I'm going to make a trip," he said. But he would not say where he was going.

AFRO Witness Tells Story to FBI

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md



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Sat. 8-10-46

Willie Johnson, 55-year-old Georgia tenant farmer, who witnessed the lynchings of four persons in Georgia two weeks ago while concealed in some underbrush 60 feet away, is shown as he told his story to FBI agents in New York over the week end. Johnson, who was fleeing from Georgia terrorism, was found in Newark by the AFRO.

Men Fleeing North, Just 60 Feet Away

The Afro-American

Safe in Newark, Fugitives, Persecuted for Voting Against Talmadge, Tell Exclusive Story to AFRO

Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-3-46

~~Nation's Worst Crime Pictured Near Augusta, Not at Monroe; Conspiracy Disclosed by Farmers~~

By OBIE McCOLLUM
(An AFRO Exclusive)

34a

NEWARK—The only living eye-witnesses of Georgia's brutal massacre last week of four innocent persons, two of them women and one a World War II veteran, two terrified sharecroppers who fled for their lives, arrived here Saturday by a round-about route, to tell their story of horror exclusively to the New Jersey AFRO-AMERICAN.

The men, Charles Williams, 55, and Leroy Greene, 44, disclosed how they were lying flat on the ground in an adjacent woods about 60 feet away, when the leader of the mob acting in the role of chief executioner, gave the orders that sent more than 60 slugs crashing into the bodies of the four victims.

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The men talked purely for the AFRO and are first hand evidence that Georgia and U.S. authorities can find out the guilty lynchers if they want to.

Disputing earlier reports that the lynching occurred near Monroe, the two witnesses contend that they were about 20 miles South of Augusta on the No. 1 highway, when they silently watched the mangled bodies of the four people slump to the ground. The Afro American

The two men were themselves fleeing from Talmadge-inspired terrorists on the Hickson farm near Macon, Ga., when they chanced to see the lynchers perform their dastardly act.

Williams, serving as spokesman, revealed how he and Greene were seated in the woods eating, when they observed the car, in which the four mob victims were passengers, stop at a crossroads, near a country store. Baltimore, Md.

The driver of the car, Williams said, ordered the two men to get out. A second after they had climbed out of the car, four other automobiles containing armed white men drove up. The white men quickly got out and began beating the mob victims, Williams said. Sat. 8-3-46

One of the women who were still in the back seat of the first car cried out, according to Williams, who quoted her as saying, "Don't do that, I know who you are."

"Get Those Heifers"

The mobster, apparently the leader, Williams said, turned to one of his subordinates and commanded, "get those two black heifers."

The men, whose hands had been tied behind them, were pushed several yards down the road, the women behind them. They were lined up along the road side, and the tall leader said, "This is all right, boys."

"Get ready," Williams quoted the leader as saying, and the mobsters levelled their assortment of guns, ranging from rifles and shotguns to Army automatic pistols.

The leader counted off, "one, two, three," and the guns went off. The victims slumped to the ground.

Two more volleys were pumped into the lifeless bodies before the men climbed back in their cars and escaped, Williams said.

Escape to Camden

Leaving the woods, Williams said, he and Greene made it across the Stat eline to Aiken, S.C., and suddenly remembering the Woodard case, kept on through to Camden, S.C.

There they were given financial aid by Amon R. Levy, an undertaker, and four ministers, the Revs. C. W. Francis, J. Cileman and W. R. Griggs.

The people in Camden, Williams reported, already knew about the lynching, and were aware that it occurred just outside of Augusta, not near Monroe as earlier reported.

William and his partner, seeking refuge here, said that their wives and children had been safely spirited out of Georgia and were now in South Carolina.

The two, he said, were forced to flee, as the result of their voting in the Georgia Democratic primary on July 17.

The white supervisor on the Hickson farm, George Stokes, had earlier warned them not to vote after learning they had registered, Williams said. They had ignored this warning and voted against Talmadge.

Threatened by Supervisor

Two days later Stokes approached and questioned them at length about the voting, ending with the statement, "You n—rs don't need to think you are going to run this State."

It was on July 23, Williams said, when Stokes and a group of his fellow overseers were drinking heavily on the plantation, that the incident which led to their hasty departure, occurred.

Obviously intoxicated, Stokes and his friends, all armed, drove up in front of their cabin and called out to Greene, Williams said. When Greene approached the car, one of the men, using the butt of a rifle, struck him across the head.

Green fell, but staggering to his feet fled to the nearby woods. Williams, who was watching from the front, said he escaped through the back door. They stayed with friends in Macon Tuesday night, July 23, and made arrangements for the safety of their wives and children.

Begin Trip North

The next morning they began their circuitous journey north. They had walked and hitch-hiked to the cross roads in Richmond County, northeast Georgia, and had just purchased some cheese and crackers at a country store.

They were in the woods eating their lunch at approximately 3 o'clock when the car in which the lunch victims were passengers, drove up.

Williams, a native of South Carolina, said he has been sharecropping in Georgia about 8 years. Greene, has been his partner on the Hickson farm about two years.

The two, now hiding in Newark, plan to have their families brought here as soon as they can find employment.

7438

WANS Demands Death Punishment For Lynching

Nigerian Spokesman

2760

LONDON.—In protest of the inhumane lynching of Negroes which is now wide spread in the United States of America, the West African National Secretariat has sent the following telegram to the President of America on behalf of Africans and people of African decent here. Nigeria So. (9m.)

"President Truman,
"White House, Onitsha,
"Washington. W. Africa

"West African National Secretariat views with deepest concern the fiendish reign of terror and mob killing of seven Negroes in the United States and c l upon the American Government to put an end to this nhuman practice by making lynching federal criminal offence punishable by death Thurs 10-10-46

"Kwame Nkrumah
"Secretary-General."

'He Did Not Deserve It!' Says Lynch Victim Kin

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 8-17-46

By ROSE E. VAUGHN

"They took me boy away from me like a dog. He was always gentle, sweet and kind, trying to please me and everyone else. But they killed him like a dog."

Tears streamed down her face and speech was difficult for Mrs. Dora Malcolm, 74-year-old grandmother of Roger Malcolm, 23, one of the Georgia lynch victims, as she gave the Defender reporter a glimpse into the personal life of her only grandson.

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Mrs. Malcolm had never thought of coming to Chicago. However, when Roger was killed, leaving her no protection, and at the insistence of her granddaughter, Dora, who feared for her life, she came. She sold 300 hogs for train fare.

"Anyway there was nothing for me to stay for. Roger was gone."

"I was the only mother he knew. His own died when he was only a baby. I raised him, sent him to school and cared for him as if he had been my own. I couldn't have loved him more, and now he is gone."

She was with him for the last time as he was on his way to jail the Sunday previous to his death.

"I can't explain the way I felt when I was notified of his death," said Mrs. Malcolm, who lives now at 1530 W. 14th pl., Chicago. "But something in me died, too."

Roger was born 23 years ago in Fairplace, Ga., and was duly sent, by his grandmother to Brownhill Baptist school, the school of her faith, in Goodhope, Ga. He was unable to attend for any length of time because of financial difficulties. 8-17-46-Sat.

"And it was a shame, too, because he was a real scholar," explained Mrs. Malcolm.

However, he continued Sunday school and sang Sunday school hymns up until his death. "He was a jovial and always gave good advice, and everyone listened to him." Mrs. Malcolm proudly asserted. If he had lived she had no doubt that he would have been a preacher. Defender

Roger was not a meat eater. He didn't eat much at all, but he was a lover of black molasses, she reminisced wistfully. His favorite color was blue with [illegible] running a close second. Chicago

The murder wrote a trag[illegible] to Malcolm's plans for comin[illegible] Chicago this fall to make his h[illegible] with his sister, Mrs. Dora [illegible]colm, at 1937 Maypole st.

LYNCH TOWN Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-17-46

Sunshine And Innocent Blood

8-17-46-Sat.

[illegible] sunshine warms the coun[illegible] warm rains nurture the [illegible] birds sing in Monroe, [illegible] they do in any other [illegible] cancer eats at the town [illegible] sapping from it all [illegible] threatening to infect [illegible] surrounding country. [illegible] surface life goes on there [illegible] even though some of its [illegible] are steeped in innocent [illegible] and many others bear the [illegible] complicity' in the recent [illegible] of four innocent Negroes. In the face of this, sectional pride, [illegible], and fear keep [illegible] the residents, realization that [illegible] were a community

[illegible]

In the wake of recent brutality, [illegible] and laymen all over the [illegible] are asking whether Ne[illegible] should leave the South to [illegible] oppression. Opinion varies [illegible] with many Southern lead[illegible] a new determina[illegible] combat at home, the evils our armies fought in Europe [illegible] Most of them feel that [illegible] possible, and that the [illegible] not lie in mass mi[illegible] 8-17-46-Sat. [illegible] Monroe, Ga., graph[illegible] the factors that support the lynch tradition. It is termed by its leaders as a good peaceful town, where there was no interference with Negroes voting. Yet of its 4,500 residents, no one, from the "worst" elements to the "best" citizens will give facts about the well-planned lynchings.

Lack Understanding

Residents fail to see the connection between "white only" signs and double standards in public life to lynch mobs and racial strife. Many educated citizens who deplored the murders still say and think "nigger" when they talk of Negroes. One businessman, who held Talmadge responsible for the crime said that one can not sow hatred without bearing a crop. As far as testifying is concerned, however, he stated that the mob would stop at nothing, and that he has a family.

The segregated churches pay lip service to Christianity. Both the leading Methodist and Baptist congregations sent the same resolution to the governor, condemning the murders, and calling for justice to the criminals. Their pastors, one of whom boasts that three Georgia governors have come from his church, do not associate Jim Crow religion with mob violence. They draw no moral from the fact that "their" governors did not combat minority oppression.

Approves Lynching

The confusion is greater among some residents of the county, generally farmers. One such hate befogged person stated that Malcolm should have been lynched for stabbing a white man. He was a bit uneasy about the murder of the women, but excused that on the basis that Negroes are not human. They eat people, lie, steal, and all of the men want a white woman, he said, with heartfelt sincerity.

Other more enlightened citizens who prefer to remain anonymous say that trouble developed from a generation grown up to hate. On the other hand, Negroes in Monroe are taking a firmer stand. They say that if things come to a showdown, they may die, but they will account for two or three "crackers" first. Defender

The fear and confusion that exists here is not isolated. Monroe is a prosperous town. In other areas where economic competition between Negroes and whites is sharper and more direct, tension is greater. Before the lynchings they had not experienced such overt terror. Meanwhile, with hatred fostered between the two groups, and one sided justice given a free hand, the Talmadges, the Rankins, and the Bilbos rise to a power that eventually must affect the whole world. 8-17-46 Sat.

In the face of continued silence by FBI and GBI operatives investigating the Monroe, Ga. murders, Negro and white citizens throughout the nation continued to express their horror and shame through letters, mass demonstrations, group visits to the White House, and by increasing the reward for conviction of the murderers to $55,000. Chicago, Ill.

Georgia church leaders and laymen have initiated a $100,000 fund to fight terror against Negroes, similar to the Chicago Defender Committee to Fight Fascism project. The fund was organized by many of the leaders who encouraged 150,000 Negroes to register, and two-thirds of that number to vote in the primary elections.

Demand Anti-Lynch Law

In Washington, several delegations picketed the White House or met with presidential representatives, demanding quick justice in the slayings of seven Negroes over a two-week period. Most of the groups, representing virtually every Negro and millions of whites in the U. S. demanded immediate passage of anti-lynch laws.

Matching an earlier demonstration in Chicago, 15,000 Negro and white citizens led by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare marched down Washington's Constitution ave., and held memorial services for the lynch victims at the foot of the Lincoln monument. The rally which was supported by UNAVA, the AVC, the CIO, the A. F. of L., the NAACP, and the National Negro Congress lasted for more than five hours. At the close of the meeting, a resolution demanding a special session of Congress to pass anti-lynch legislation was sent to the President.

In New York, 40 organizations called together by the NAACP took steps to form a committee to combat the rising tide of terror against Negroes. Staid New Englanders, shocked out of their complacency by the attacks, have shown signs of assuming the abolitionist role of their forbears.

34a 1946 Greece

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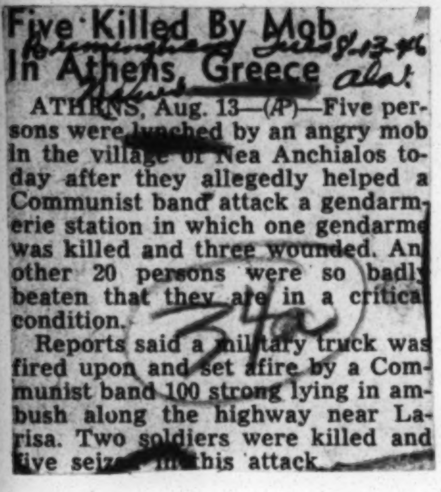

Five Killed By Mob In Athens, Greece

Birmingham [illegible] 8-13-46
News Ala.

ATHENS, Aug. 13—(AP)—Five persons were lynched by an angry mob in the village of Nea Anchialos today after they allegedly helped a Communist band attack a gendarmerie station in which one gendarme was killed and three wounded. Another 20 persons were so badly beaten that they are in a critical condition.

34a

Reports said a military truck was fired upon and set afire by a Communist band 100 strong lying in ambush along the highway near Larisa. Two soldiers were killed and five seized in this attack.

7437

La. Youth, Bearing Scars From Beating Describes Lynching of Vet, Identifies 4

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 9-7-46

Located in Midwest Town, 17-Year-Old Cousin Tells N.Y. Newsmen How Officers Helped Mob

By RICHARD DIER

AFRO Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK—Albert (Sonny Man) Harris Jr., the 17-year-old eyewitness to the blow torch, meat cleaver lynching of war veteran John C. Jones, who himself escaped death at the hands of the same mob, told details of the brutal crime at an NAACP press conference Thursday.

34a La.

He named some of the dozen or more killers. Their names were turned over to the FBI 10 days ago by the NAACP.

With the boy was his father Albert Harris Sr., who was also severely beaten when deputies attempted to force him to reveal the whereabouts of his son.

Took Refuge in Midwest

Both were the subject of an intensive search conducted by the NAACP, and later by the FBI through Louisiana, Texas, the Pacific Coast and Midwestern States, in efforts to reach the youth before members of the Louisiana mob would reach him and silence him forever.

On Monday, a relative of the family, with whom the Harrises whose mutilated body was recovered from the woods 15 miles from Minden, La., where the two young men were attacked Aug. 8.

His story was one of horrible and inhumane beatings and cruelties inflicted on his person to make him confess that he was implicated in criminal assault allegedly committed by Jones.

He told of being left for dead by the Louisiana mob, of regaining consciousness and hearing Jones groan for water.

He told how he crawled to a creek, filled his shoe with water and carried it to the veteran, a man who had risked his life in the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium.

Evidence of Beating

A physical examination by Dr. Robert S. Wilkinson revealed the following injuries on young Harris:

A scar one inch in length on the left forehead with underlying infection (caused by a beating with a 45-calibre pistol).

Healing scars encircling both wrists and extending up on the arms caused by ropes which bound his wrists together, and similar circling scars on both ankles;

The Afro-American

Extensive and healing abrasions covering both thighs and front of the thighs and buttocks (caused by terrific beating he received from sticks, belts and other implements). Baltimore, Md.

He shows evidence of a severe shocking experience, some of which is still present. His recovery, the doctor said, is due to his youth and previous good physical condition. Albert is six feet tall and husky.

The story of this horrible Louisiana crime by a bloodthirsty mob can best be told in Albert's own words: Sat. 9-7-46

Names 2 Officers, 2 Others

"I am 17 and was born and lived all my live in Cotton Valley, La. On July 31, 1946, at 6 or 6:30 at night, Sam Mettrick, O. H. Haynes Jr., deputy sheriff of Minden; a man named Perry and Charlie Edwards, deputy sheriff of Cotton Valley and Spring Hill, came to my house and arrested me.

"They then drove me in a car to Dennis's store where they stopped and accused me and Jones of going in a white man's yard, and said Jones attempted to assault Mettrick's son's wife and that I was watching for him. Then they drove me to Spring Hill to see Sam Mettrick's son, Sammy, where he was working at the International Paper Co. They asked him whether I was the boy and he said, 'Yes, he's the one named Sonny Man.'

Driven Home by Sheriff

"After we left Spring Hill, Hayes and Perry took me past my house and then to Minden to the jail house. They kept me there from that Wednesday evening until Friday evening. They did not question me at all then.

"Sheriff Haynes took me out of jail where the mob could get me at Dixie End. He said he was going to Shreveport and would ride me part of the way home.

"We drove along the highway to Shreveport until he came to Highway 99 at Dixie End, 18 miles from my home. When we got to Highway 90, which goes in back of my house, he told me that was as far as he was going.

Questioned About Attack

"I saw a car there. I saw it before I got out of the sheriff's car, but I did not know it was the mob, I made about a 50-yard dash down the road, and they came after me and put guns on me. They put me in a car.

"They accused me of peeping for Jones and asked me about Jones and threatened to kill me if I did not tell them that Jones did it.

"They took me out by Charlie Johnson's Cafe, tied me to an oil well, and that is where they beat me. Jones was not with me then. They were trying to make me tell that Jones was the one who went in the yard.

Lies to Save His Life

"They beat me with straps and sticks. After they beat me about two hours, they told me if I did not tell it, they were going to kill me. So I told them that Jones was the one, to keep them from killing me. Then they let me go.

"They took me about a half mile above my house and put me out of the car. I don't know whose car it was, nor do I know the driver.

"I only know that Sam Mettrick and Slim Perkins were the ones who beat me. They were not connected with the law at all, as I know of. When they were beating me, there were five of them. I only knew these two.

Taken Back by Father

"After I got home, my parents took me to another town. I got there Saturday morning at 5 a.m. and stayed there all day until Sunday at 5 a.m.

"My father took me back to Minden and had me at the sheriff's office at 12:30 p.m. that Sunday and left me there. They told him that they were going to keep me two days. After my father left, he said several days.

"Haynes asked me whether Jones went into the man's yard, and I told him no. He said I was lying. So he took me and put me in jail. I stayed in jail from Sunday until Thursday night. They didn't beat me in jail.

Jones Also in Jail

"All this time I had not seen Jones. He was on one side of the corridor and I was on the other. Could not see him, but I knew he was there because I could talk to him.

"The sheriff told me that Sunday evening that he had Jones and that I told the mob that Jones was the one who did it. I told him they beat me and made me tell them.

"Thursday night the sheriff told us he was going to turn us loose, we hadn't done anything . . . the lady didn't have any charges on us. This was about 8:30. He opened the door.

Sheriff Sees Mob

"Jones went out first. I was next, and Haynes was behind me. Jones did not say anything to the sheriff. He did not push us out. We walked right out. They were on the outside of the jail standing behind the post so we couldn't see them. I did not know anyone but Mettrick in the crowd.

"There were about ten of them. Five got Jones and five got me. Jones started hollering soon as the crowd grabbed him. I didn't say anything when they grabbed me. They hit him on the head trying to make him stop.

"Mettrick was in the crowd that grabbed me. When Jones hollered, Haynes was behind me. Haynes saw them take us. He had a gun. After they hit Jones, Haynes helped them put Jones in the car.

Taken in Separate Cars

"Three men had me. I was looking at every bit of it. Mettrick had me in the belt and two other guys had me on each arm. Haynes was the only one in the jail at that time.

"They put me in a car. There were two different cars. I didn't know whether Sheriff Haynes was in the car with Jones. They took us about 15 miles below Minden, and that is where they beat me again and killed Jones.

"They had nearly killed him before they put him in the car. From the time the cars left and we were beaten, I did not see the sheriff again. In the last mob, the only one I recognized was Mettrick.

Tied and Stepped on

"They took Jones on one side of the creek. I don't know what they did to him. They took me on the other side. They tied my hands and feet. They put their feet on my head and my feet so I couldn't move.

"Some stepped on my head and some stepped on the rest of my body. Then they beat me again with a strop.

"Mettrick was in the crowd that beat me. After they beat me, they told me to leave Cotton Valley and not be caught back there any more. That is when they hit me with a big gun over my head and knocked me out.

Gets Water for Dying Man

"After I came to, they were gone. I heard Jones groaning. They had cut the ropes from my hands and feet. I went over to see Jones. He was in a bad condition. He was bleeding about the head and about the body, too.

"He was not dead, but he was dying. He could speak. He told me to get him a drink of water. About 15 minutes after that I felt his pulse and decided he had died. I was there when he died.

"I didn't ask him who the people were who beat him, and he did not tell me. He didn't talk much.

Mob Car Returns

"When I left Jones he was not burned. After I got on the road, they were coming back. I saw the cars, so I got in the woods. I am quite sure it was the mob coming back. I saw the car they had brought me in.

"I got into town and couldn't get out of the way of one car as I was walking down the street. The city police stopped me and asked me where was the other boy.

"I said I didn't know exactly because I didn't know the woods so well. They asked me whether I knew any of the mob. I told them no, because if I had said yes, they would have done something to me."

Mother Carries Him to Safety

When Albert reached home his mother didn't say anything to him, just grabbed him and held him tight. At night, she drove him to the home of friends in Arkansas, from there to Chicago and on to the Midwest town.

The Harris family has been living in Cotton Valley, La., for several generations. There are three daughters in the family, besides Albert, age 8, 11 and 13.

They lived in a three-room shack two miles out of town. Harris Sr. earned $45 a week in a saw mill as a laborer, while Albert attended school.

Want Only Freedom From Fear

Now father and son contemplate a future with freedom from the fear of death and torture for the first time in their lives.

Albert Harris Sr. hopes to find work in that Midwestern town where the family will settle, with the aid of the NAACP, while young Albert will continue his schooling.

Both say they "never want to see any of those people or that place again."

NEW YORK, Aug. 19.—Officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People were racing yesterday against a La. mob in a desperate effort to save the life of an eye witness to the horrible beating and blow torch lynching of John C. Jones, Negro war veteran.

34a Daily Worker La.

After La. officials began the usual southern "investigation" for "person or persons" unknown guilty of the lynching, NAACP investigators conducted a private search, that has furnished the names of at least five of the lynchers, one of whom was a woman. New York, N.Y.

The body of Jones, a cotton seed oil refinery worker was found last Aug. 14 in a lake near Minden, La.

The eye witness, Albert Harris, a 17 year-old Negro was also shot by the mob, but feigned death until the mob left the scene. He then escaped into nearby Texas. 8-20-46

A lynch mob that discovered Harris's whereabouts was on its way to the Texas town at noon Monday to seize the youth, according to an NAACP investigator, who phoned Walter White at New York NAACP headquarters in a desperate appeal for help.

34a La.

Harris is said to have escaped to Texarkana, Texas, which is divided by the Arkansas and Texas boundary line. While en route on a bus out of Minden he talked to a man named Walker. This man, who lived in Shreveport, has been absent from his home and job for the past two days. Tues 8/20/46

There has been no serious effort by the district attorney for Webster Parish to arrest the lynchers. It is generally known, that they are residents of Cotton Valley, who came to Minden for Jones and Harris by prearrangement with prison officials.

Daily Worker

Sol Harper, of the National Equal Rights League, has called upon all "unions, churches, progressive organizations, city, federal and state officials," to wire Gov. Thomas Bailey of Mississippi, demanding that "immediate protection from mob violence be given to the Negroes in Magee, Miss.

New York, N.Y.

La. Vet, Released From Jail, Lynched

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-24-46

MINDEN, La.—Apparently the victim of lynchers, John C. Jones, 28-year-old veteran, was found dead near here on August 9, his body brutally beaten from head to foot, a belated coroner's report [illegible] on Aug. 14.

Jones, who had been held in the local jail after a white woman accused him and a 17-year-old youth of attempting to break into her house, had been released from jail shortly before, after the woman refused to make any charges.

The youth, whose name was withheld, told police officials that the two of them were picked up and placed in separate automobiles by a group of men.

Youth Knocked Out

Continuing, he said that he was struck on the head and remained unconscious for several hours, completely unaware of what had happened to Jones.

Jones's body, found by fishermen on Dorcheat Bayou, attested to the fact that he was beaten all over, according to Thomas Richardson, coroner, who added that the nature of the wounds indicated that whipping, not killing, was intended. The Afro-American

Pictures 'Found' on Body

In addition, Richardson said that obscene pictures of white women were found on the body and expressed belief that they might have inflamed the "killer."

Declining to state whether the killing was a lynching, but admitting that reports stated that the mob consisted of from 2 to 10 men, Assistant District Attorney Harmon Drew declared that hi office had no clues and that no arrests had been made. Sat. 8-24-46

Meanwhile, State officials at Shreveport revealed that they would not enter the case unless called in by the district attorney, A. M. Wallace, who was out of town.

Baltimore, Md.

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

56a

ATHENS, Ala. — From a strictly racial point of view, reports of a disturbance here last Saturday are fallacious. There was no race riot.

Reminiscent of the Columbia, Tenn., pogrom in which colored citizens were abused, intimidated and their property destroyed, the affray here amounted to abuse of persons around the town square at the height of the demonstration.

However, there was no pitched battle between the races. Nor did the mob try to invade Trinity or Village View.

Smouldering Embers Hidden

There are substantiated reports that colored persons were chased out of the heart of town by whites "like hounds chasing rabbits."

In some wise, the Aug. 10 demonstration might be written off as an oversized Saturday afternoon brawl which got its impetus from an interracial fight, but there are other deep-seated ramifications of friction between the whites which may never be revealed.

Unharmed, Says Cripple

Bill Sloss, well-known local crippled figure, reportedly badly beaten by the mob, states that no one molested him when he decided to leave the heart of town after hearing the excited use of racial epithets.

Leard Yarborough, from the countryside, was sitting on the courthouse railing when the affray started.

He tells of having stood almost beneath the ringleader as he began to whip the crowd into the frenzy that resulted in the forced release of the Massey brothers from custody.

Evaded Issue, Went Home

Yarborough says he merely stepped back from his front-row vantage point, went off and found the white farmer who had promised to drive him back, waited while several other riders were white several others riders were rounded up and left the town unmolested.

Employees of downtown stores were advised by their employers to go home, lock their doors and protect themselves, since law abiding whites could not protect them if they were scattered all over town.

Visitors Unmolested

Joseph Durravant of St. Louis in town on a visit, was in the show when mobsters forced all colored patrons to leave and reports having seen several persons pushed around but was not bothered himself.

Theodore Allen of Houston, also visiting, reports having been around the square when the demonstration was at its height but thought it nothing more than a fist fight, attended to business at the postoffice and returned home.

Civic Leader's Aid Sought

His father, Max Allen, local civic leader, was telephoned by Mayor R. H. Richardson Jr., when the mob was at its height, screaming epithets and demanding release of the white youths.

He reports having gone to the town square and conferred with officials at the time the Massey brothers were forcibly taken from the jail but no one made any attempt to do him any bodily harm.

Because of the nature of the initial outburst, he declares, county officials, including State Highway Patrol Director Van Buren Gilbert, have assured him and others that they will be provided every protection of the law.

It Happened in Minden

Orleanians Roundly Condemn Lynching Of Decorated, Honorably Discharged GI

The Courier Pittsburgh Pa. Sat. 8-24-46

34a

NEW ORLEANS—Immediately followiing a radio announcement by a news commentator Thursday night that U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark is demanding the passage of Federal legislation against mob violence because of the recent killing of a Negro near Minden, La. State-wide condemnation was made of the heinous crime.

Investigations by the New Orleans NAACP, which were conducted by Atty. A. P. Tureaud, legal counsel, and Executive Secretary Daniel E. Byrd, as well as The Courier and The Informer newspapers, revealed that the mob victim was 28-year-old John C. Jones, an honorably discharged World War II veteran, who was slain by an unmasked white mob while wearing his Army uniform.

Foremost among organizations which demanded immediate action were the NAACP and Local 206, International Transport Workers Union of America, CIO. Executive Secretary Byrd of the NAACP wrote Louisiana's Gov. James H. Davis as follows:

DEMANDS ACTION

"The whipping post lynching of John C. Jones, 28-year-old Negro, in or around Minden, La., on Aug. 8, warrants some executive action on the part of our State to protect citizens from the outbursts of mob violence. We respectfully request that the Louisiana State Police and the Attorney General's office investigate, apprehend, prosecute, and convict the persons responsible for this atrocity."

In a telegram to Attorney General Tom C. Clark, Mr. Byrd wired:

"The lynching of John C. Jones, 28-year-old Negro, near or in Minden, La., on Aug. 8, is a flagrant violation of the conspiracy clause and diametrically opposed to the democratic principles of our Federal Constitution. This lynch spirit has spread only because our Department of Justice has been unable to apprehend those who set off the spark in Monroe, Ga. Unless the Department of Justice can protect the guarantees extended to citizens by the U. S. Constitutionn, then the Department of Justice should close its doors. We respectfully request that the Civil Liberties Section immediately investigate, apprehend, prosecute, and convict the parties responsible for the brutal lynching which was preceded by an exhibition at the whipping post.

TRANSPORTERS APPEAL

Herman C. Gray, financial secretary-treasurer, and Raymond R. Tillman, international representative of the Transport Workers Union, sent the following telegram to Attorney General Clark:

"The Transport Workers Union of America, CIO, urges that you order an immediate and full Federal investigation of the lynching of John C. Jones at Minden, La. Aug. 8, 1946."

Also appealing to Louisiana's Governor Davis for full intervention in the brutal slaying, Messrs. Gray and Tillman sent the following telegram:

"The Transport Workers Union of America, CIO, urges that you order an immediate and full investigation of the lynching of John C. Jones at Minden, La., Aug. 8. We urge you to instruct the District Attorney of Louisiana to prosecute to the full extent of the law the party or parties responsible for this heinous act. We urge you to use the full influence of your high office to assure the protection and security of the Negro citizens of this State, so as to thwart the efforts of the race-haters and terrorists now on a rampage of murder, intimidation and oppression throughout the South and these United States.

Lynch Victim Returns To Scene Under U. S. Wings

Daily World Atlanta, Ga

Sun. 10-20-46

34a

NEW YORK, N. Y.— Albert Harris, Jr., and his father, Albert Harris, Sr., are today safe in their home in the midwest after a dramatic return visit to Louisana where on August 8th John Jones was brutally murdered by a sadistic mob and young Harris pitilessly beaten before he made his escape. The Harrises are alive today, because they made the trip closely guarded by U. S. marshalls, following a request addressed to the NAACP by the Justice Department that they be present when he Department presented the evidence of their investigation to the Grand Jury in Monroe, Louisiana, last Saturday.

Since Monroe is notorious for its Ku Kluxism and mob violence, Walter White told the Justice Department that an NAACP representative would accompany the Harrises to Monroe, but insisted that the Justice Department assume full responsibility for the Harrises' safety from the minute they left the midwestern state whre they are now living, under the care of the NAACP, until their return.

To do this it was necessary for the Harrises to place themselves voluntarily in the protective custody of the U. S. Government as material witnesses. They, therefore, were required to appear, at a closed hearing, before a Federal judge in the midwest, so no one would know about their plan to go back to Louisana. In the State, they risked facing the mob which the NAACP knew would stop at nothing to close, young Albert Harris's mouth forever, as he was an eye witness to the lynching and can positively identify some members of the mob, which included deputy sheriffs.

34a Daily World

Atlanta Ga

The Harrises traveled to Louisiana in a drawing room, accompanied by the Executive Secretary of one of the NAACP branches and guarded by several U. S. marshalls at all times.

Sun. 10-20

They testified before the Grand Jury on Monday, and left immediately afterward for their home in the midwest. The announcement that they had testified was withheld by the Justice Department until their safe return was established.

1437

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3 Deputy Sheriffs Among Those Named in Minden Blow-Torch Lynching

The Courier Pittsburgh Pa. Sat. 8-31-46

34a

MINDEN, La.—Thirteen of the white men who lynched the Army-decorated veteran, John C. Jones, 28, here Aug. 8, are known and their names have been given to FBI investigators, Daniel E. Byrd, president of the Louisiana branches of the NAACP, told The Courier this week.

Names of the lynch suspects, according to Mr. Byrd, are:

DEPUTY SHERIFF OSCAR H. HAYNES Jr., Minden.

DEPUTY SHERIFF CHARLES EDWARDS, Springhill.

DEPUTY SHERIFF SIDNEY BEAN, Cotton Valley.

TILLMAN PERKINS, Cotton Valley.

SAM PERKINS, Cotton Valley.

SAM METRICK Sr., Cotton Valley.

SAM METRICK Jr., Cotton Valley.

R. E. PERRY, Cotton Valley.

JOHN DENNIS, Cotton Valley.

(A SON OF JOHN DENNIS, Cotton, Valley.)

GORDON HARRIS, Cotton Valley.

ROY BICK, Cotton Valley.

GILBERT KEY, Cotton Valley.

An eye-witness to the lynching, 17-year-old Albert (Sonnyman) Harris, who was beaten and shot by the same mob and left for dead, escaped to Texas. He is now headed for New York after spending some time in the Midwest, the NAACP official said.

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — The Justice Department said last Monday that it is investigating the murder of John C. Jones, 28-year-old Cotton Valley oil refinery worker, whose battered and decomposed body was found near Minden, La., one day after he was released from jail.

WITNESS TO TALK

With the youth are his parents. Once in New York, young Harris will tell his story of the lynching and his sworn affidavit will be turned over to the U. S. Department of Justice. This information came from Walter White, executive secretary of the national body of the NAACP.

Mr. Byrd added that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has promised the NAACP that the case will be given a thorough investigation.

WIDOW IN DANGER

At press time, The Courier learned that the lynch victim's widow and four-year-old daughter are still in Cotton Valley although they have been warned repeatedly of the potential danger they face. Tension is still high in and around Minden.

34a

It was also learned that Jones, before his death, had various unpleasant experiences with local whites shortly after his discharge from the Army last February. He reportedly drove an automobile into a telegraph pole and drew a fine of $150. From the same source it was learned that a white man who worked with Jones at the Premier Oil Company in Cotton Valley tried to force the war veteran to give up a German automatic, he brought home as a souvenir.

The Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

Ex-GI Was Practically 'Delivered' To Waiting Sadistic Mob Who Burned, Hacked Body, After Gouging Eyes Out

Louisiana Weekly Saturday
New Orleans, La. 8-24-46

17-Year-Old Feigns Death, Escapes From Inhumane Gang

34a

Minden, La.—It could happen only in Monroe, Ga., Louisianians thought. Then the ominous anti-Negro "reign of terror" which is rapidly enveloping the Southland struck here with gruesome fury. Following the pattern of the Monroe mass murders, John C. Jones and his first cousin were practically "delivered" from the jail into the hands of a waiting sadistic mob on Wednesday, August 7.

John C. Jones, a 28-year-old war veteran who had served his country honorably for four years, returned to the people he had fought for only to receive a fate surpassing the horrors of the German and Japanese masters of murder.

Albert "Sunny Man" Harris, a 17-year-old youth who had been jailed with Jones on a complaint of Mrs. Sam Mettrick, a white woman who alleged that the pair had tried to enter her home, escaped the dual lynching plan and lived to tell a tale of horror.

Jones and Harris were released from the jail when Mrs. Mettrick refused to press formal charges. "Delivered" into the hands of the lynch-bent mob at the door of the jail at 10 o'clock Wednesday night, the authorities saw the two men packed into automobiles which drove to a rendezvous in Cotton Valley, near here. At the lynch spot, Jones and Harris were shot, cut, beaten and burned. Miraculously, Harris escaped after being shot twice and feigning death. He is believed to have left the state.

8-24-46-Sat

Jones' horribly mutilated body was found on the next afternoon in a heavily wooded section on Dorcheat Bayou by fishermen. According to persons who had examined the body, both eyes had been gouged, the face and body scarred, an incomplete castration had been performed, and both hands had been hacked with some heavy instrument, believed to have been a cleaver. Louisiana Weekly

When members of the lynch mob learned that young Harris had escaped, they went to the home of his father and demanded his whereabouts. When he refused to tell where his son had gone, they inflicted a beating on the person of the elder Harris, knocking his teeth out. New Orleans, La.

Jones' death was not made public until the day of the funeral, Tuesday, August 13, when a report submitted by Deputy Parish Coroner T. A. Richardson stated that Jones had died of "multiple bruises and abrasions" sustained at the hands of "a person or persons unknown." Ironically, he was buried with military honors—with flag-draped coffin — but had been lynched while wearing the same GI clothing he had worn at the time of his honorable discharge.

An employee of the Premier Oil Company of Cotton Valley, Jones is survived by his wife, Mrs. Carrie Lee Pendleton Jones, 25 years, and a four-year-old daughter, Myrtis Ann.

An on-the-scene investigation by New Orleans newsmen and NAACP investigators uncovered the fact that Jones' relatives own property where several test oil wells are being drilled, while others are producing. They also found out the names of five members of the lynch mob. All information has been turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. La. Weekly

34a

An early report of the lynching appearing in the daily press stated Jones was carrying several pictures of naked white girls. NAACP investigators branded this report as being false. The pictures in Jones' possession were those of a French family whom he had known when he was serving his country in France. New Orleans, La.

Parish officials said no lynching had been committed in Webster Parish for 60 years, but "occasionally elderly persons had been found dead near Dorcheat Bayou." Residents of Minden, however, charged that there had been lynchings in 1916 and 1924. Sat. 8-24-46

Minden was the scene of another brutal beating earlier this year when Roosevelt Hollingsworth, a resident of California, returned to his birthplace to get married. Hollingsworth was beaten by state policemen when he refused to admit he had stolen the car he was driving, a 1942 Buick. The car was taken by police and sold to a white school teacher.

Escaped Youth To Leave Texas For N. Y. Stay

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Tues. 8-20-46

NAACP Officials Speed Boy To New York Haven

34a

NEW YORK—(SNS)—NAACP investigators in Texas Monday reported that arrangements had been completed for flying to New York 17-year-old Albert Harris, who allegedly witnessed the lynching of John C. Jones in Louisiana while feigning death himself.

Harris was shot by the mob which burned with a blow-torch and mutilated Jones, a 28-year-old refinery worker. He is expected to arrive in New York today (Tuesday.)

The NAACP has supplied names of Jones' lynchers to the Department of Justice, spokesmen said. One of the mob was identified as a woman.

A Louisiana mob Monday was reported to have learned that Harris was alive and at the noon hour was on its way to the Texas town to seize the youth, according to an NAACP investigator who telephoned the Secretary, Walter White, of the Association here in a desperate appeal for help.

In Washington, the Justice Department said Monday that it is investigating Jones' lynching. A spokesman for the department said the inquiry was undertaken to determine whether any federal law had been violated.

LOCAL INVESTIGATION

MINDEN, La.—(NNPA) — An investigaiton into the murder of a 28-year-old refinery worker was begun here last Friday, but District Attorney A. M. Wallace doubted he would find "much cooperation in obtaining names."

The murdered man was John C. Jones, who was beaten to death on the dam of a small lake near here August 9. Deputy Coroner Thomas Richardson last Thursday described the killing as a lynching. Jones' body was marked with slashes and bruises, which Richardson said apparently had been inflicted by a flat object, such as a wide leather belt or a thick plank.

A coroner's jury attributed death to "multiple bruises and abrasions at the hands of a persons unknown.

"WITHOUT CLUES"

Sheriff A. H. Haynes said he had no clues and that he did not plan to ask for state or federal aid in his investigation.

Jones' battered and decomposing body was found one day after he had been released from jail here. He had been arrested after a white woman allegedly accused him of attempting to break into her home. Jones was released when she failed to place a formal charge against him.

Attaches of the sheriff's office said a 17-year old unidentified youth, arrested and released with Jones, reported that he and Jones were accosted by "some white men" behind the jail shortly after being freed. Daily Worker

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BESTIAL SADISM

NAACP special investigators revealed facts in the recent lynchings of Negro Veteran John C. Jones, which, for sheer bestial sadism, outdoes even the Georgia lynchings and Isaac Woodard's blinding. Atlanta, Ga.

The investigation revealed that Jones recently discharged U. S. Army Corporal was burned about the face and body with a blow torch, after a horrible beating at the hands of the mob. The mutilated veteran's head had also been struck repeatedly while his hands were severed by a cleaver. The excessive heat and beatings caused the victim's eyes to pop from their sockets. Tues. 8-20-46

DISPUTE OVER AUTOMATIC

Harris was shot by the mob and left for dead before the torch was applied to Jones, who had recently been involved in a dispute with a white man over an automatic which Jones brought from Europe as a trophy. It is aleged the white man demanded that Jones turn the gun over to him. Jones replied, "Only over my dead body would the gun be taken." It was also revealed that Harris' father had been beaten by the mob when it was discovered that Harris had escaped.

Tuskegee Institute, which recods lynchingc, said the last recorded lynching in Louisiana was on October 13, 1938, when R. C. Williams was killed by a mob in Lincoln Parish, about forty miles east of here. Williams was accused of beating a white woman and killing his male companion.

Columbus, Ga., Enquirer-Sun
October 15, 1946

Evidence Is Presented To Federal Grand Jury In Louisiana Lynching

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—(AP) Attorney General Tom Clark announced that evidence is being presented today before a federal grand jury at Monroe, La., in connection with the lynching of one Negro and an assault upon a second Negro on August 8 at Minden, La.

Clark said in a statement that John C. Jones was "killed through mob violence" and Albert Harris Jr., was assaulted by the mob.

United States Attorney Malcolm LaFargue is laying the case before the grand jury. About 50 witnesses probably will be heard, Clark said.

He added that the evidence "resulted from an investigation instituted by the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice."

Assistant Attorney General Lamar Caudle, head of the department's criminal division, said in a statement:

"A mob of a dozen or more men came in automobiles during the night and seized Jones and Harris, two young Negroes, in the jail yard of the Webster parish jail, as they were being released by a jail officer. The victims battled and screamed as the mob whisked them away. The body of Jones was later found in a wooded area near Minden. Harris was left for dead after being brutally beaten by the mob but survived and fled Louisiana."

JONES WIDOW STORY

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Mobs Murder Father, Husband

Sat. 9-28-46

By JOHN E. ROUSSEAU JR.
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NEW ORLEANS — Her father slaughtered by a lynch mob when she was a child, her husband tortured to death only a month ago by a similar murder gang, and her own life threatened, combined to make an interview with Mrs. Carrie Lee Pendleton Jones, a piteous saga that condensed in one person the whole picture of persecuted black millions in a race mad Southland.

Twenty-four years ago a howling

ever. That night some white men came to our home in Benton and got him, saying they were going to put him in jail. He went with them.

"Instead of putting him in jail they tied him behind an automobile and dragged him over the roads. Then they castrated him and hanged him on a tree. My mother thinking he was in jail, was getting ready to go up to see him when the mob brought his battered body and threw it on the front porch. That's all I know about my father. The mob members were known and I've heard persons say two white men named J. H. Montgomery and Allen Montgomery were the leaders.

Describing the incredible incident in which she was threatened by a group of white men in Cotton Valley because she refused a white man's offer, she said:

"It was in March, 1945, while my husband was in the army overseas when it happened.

"My baby and I were walking to town on the railroad track when I noticed we had come near a white man. He began making vulgar remarks and asking me questions but I ignored him and kept going. He went on his way. I remained in Cotton Valley nearly two hours and had forgotten about the incident. Defender

"Passing near the same spot, I noticed him again. He came out of the woods and began following us, resuming his vulgar remarks and questions. After we had walked over a trestle, he grabbed me and tried to pull me into the woods. I told the baby to keep walking and he hit me. Chicago, Ill.

"He tried to hold me and told me he could do me a lot of good while my husband was away in the army. He said colored people didn't have anything to fight for.

"When he kept holding me and trying to drag me to the woods, I began fighting back and struck him several times. I broke away and ran. When I caught up with my baby I picked her up in my arms and ran. He followed me and would have caught me but stopped when I ran near a plant where people were working and would see him.

"He said he would kill me, called me all kinds of names, then walked up the railroad track. Sat. 9-28-46

"When the news spread, there was talk that the white men would get even with me but the feeling died down, I believe, because the white man did not want it to be known publicly that he tried to proposition me.

"Several women of Cotton Valley had the same experience. It was so bad that colored women couldn't go to town by themselves for fear of being raped by white men or beaten if they fought back."

Louisiana Death Inquiry On

Times New York, N.Y.

MINDEN, La., Aug. 16 (AP)—Harmon C. Drew, Assistant District Attorney, said today that officials in this northwest Louisiana parish had developed "several leads" in their investigation of the fatal beating of a 28-year-old Negro, but he declined to say whether he believed the Negro was lynched.

Mr. Drew planned to confer with District Attorney A. M. Wallace, due back in Minden today after an absence of several days, on the death by reputed mob violence of John C. Jones, whose body, beaten from head to foot, was found near here a week ago.

Jones, a former Army corporal, and another Negro were reportedly seized and spirited away soon after their release from jail.

They had been held for a time, but not charged, in connection with a reported attempt by two Negroes to enter a house in Cotton Valley, La.

"Dead Boy" Escapes To Tell of Lynching

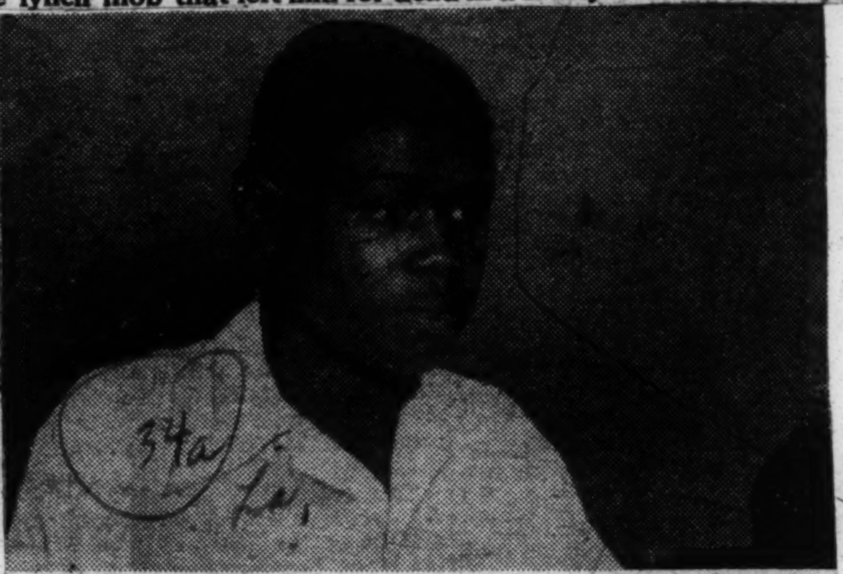
Amsterdam News ✓ New York, N.Y.

By CONTSANCCE CURTIS

Albert "Sonny Man" Harris is in New York now, bearing the deep and still unhealed scars that are the silent tokens of the lynch mob that left him for dead in a lonely wood in Louisiana.

On Thursday, in the offices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People the 17-year-old boy told how he, and his cousin, John C. Jones, a 28-year-old veteran, were taken by a mob. John isn't here with Harris, because his mutilated body, beaten and burned with a blow torch, the hands cut off, was left in the woods, 15 miles from Minden, La., where the lynching took place on Aug. 8.

Young Harris, and his father, Albert Harris, Sr. were brought North, after members of the lynch mob had followed them to Texas in an attempt to capture and silence them. "Sonny" Harris was not only an eyewitness to the lynching of his cousin, but here, with quiet sureness, he stated that he could positively identify at least two members of the mob.



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La.

ALBERT "SONNY MAN" HARRIS hides a memory of Southern terror behind quiet and placid eyes. He has looked up a lynching, and has escaped to identify the murderers.

FBI Has Names

The names of these two men, along with 11 others, including three deputy sheriffs, who are accused by him of taking part in the lynching and beating, have been turned over to the FBI by officials of the NAACP.

Reporters had the opportunity to look at the ugly scars on the youth's arms and ankles, where he had been bound with grass ropes, and the gash over his left eye, where he was hit with a pistol butt. Then Harris told the story of the lynching and the flight of his father and himself, from the fury of the mob. Amsterdam News

The Harrises, Albert, his father, mother and three younger sisters, lived in Cotton Valley, where the family had been for three generations. The elder Harris, who worked in a sawmill earned $45 a week. Mrs. Harris took in washing and the family owned a 1940 Plymouth car. Albert attended the eighth grade in the local school. New York, N.Y.

Accused As Rape Look-out

Their lives were disrupted, however, in July 31, when Albert was arrested, on the charge of complicity in the rape of a white woman, allegedly by his cousin, John. He was accused of having stood outside the house of the woman, in Cotton Valley, while his cousin went in to rape her. Sat. 9-7-46

Although both Albert and John swore that they were nowhere near Cotton Valley on the day the alleged rape was supposed to have occurred, John was taken to jail and released after two days.

When he was released he was waylaid and beaten by five white men as he attempted to go home. After this, Albert's father took him to friends in Texas, but brought the boy back when the local sheriff theratened and beat him with a warning to bring the boy back.

Following Albert's return, he and Jones were again arrested and placed in the Minden jail. Harris stated that they denied all charges, and that the woman in the case, a Mrs. Mettrick refused to prosecute them.

Sheriff Led to Lynch Spot

In spite of this they were held in jail nine days, and when they were released, at about 8:30 on Thursday, August 8, they were carried a part of the way by the sheriff. A short distance from the spot, where he released them, they were set upon by about ten men, taken in two cars, bound and driven outside the town of Minden.

"They threw me down on my stomach," Albert said, "and they put their feet on my head and feet so I couldn't move."

Harris held his hand up to indicate a width of about three inches. "They beat me with a strap about that wide," he said.

"They took John over to the other side of the creek. They had a bunch of straps. First they'd beat him, then they'd beat me. Everytime they'd ask me was John in that woman's yard, I'd say 'no,' and they'd beat me again and tell me I was lying."

Left for Dead

After being beaten for a long time, someone hit John with the butt of a .45 and left him for dead. Albert didn't know how long he was unconscious, but when he woke "it was very dark." He saw his cousin lying on the other side of the creek, and he stuggled across to him.

"He was thirsty," Albert said, "and I took off my shoe and put water in it for him to drink. He asked me to give his German Luger pistol that he got from overseas to another cousin and then he died. He died with his head in my lap."

In the meantime, Albert's parents had heard that their son had been beaten to death. Albert, Sr., didn't wait for his week's pay on Friday. He told his family to wait until they heard from him and started out for Chicago.

Not too long after he had left, Albert, blood-spattered and weak, drove up to his parents' home in a taxi! He had literally come back from the dead. He had walked the night before to the highway into Minden, gone to the home of an uncle, and stayed until that night. Then he had come home.

"Momma didn't say nothing when she saw me," Albert said in telling his story. "She just grabbed me." After dark, Mrs. Harris hurriedly drove the boy to Arkansas, to friends, and Thursday of the next week she too came to Arkansas, with the three girls and what household things she could get into the car.

They left Arkansas the next day and drove without stopping until they got to Chicago. They found Albert, Sr., was in another town with friends (the name was withheld because the Harrises are still afraid for their friends) and the family left on Saturday night to go to him. Sat. 9-7-46

Now they are in New York, the father and son, and they've had their fill of the South.

"People is tired of living there, the way things is," Albert said. "I don't never want to go back again, and maybe my friends will be leaving there soon now too. It ain't fit there for you to live."

7460

VICTIM OF LYNCH MOB TELLS STORY OF MINDEN TERROR

34a Ga.

MOB VICTIM SAFE IN NEW YORK—Left for dead by a Louisiana mob after his cousin, John C. Jones, had been lynched, 17-year-old Albert (Sonnyman) Harris is shown almost one month after the horrible experience, as he arrived with his father in New York last week. There to welcome them were NAACP executives. Left to right: Walter White, NAACP executive secretary; Madison Jones, NAACP administrative assistant; Albert Harris Jr., and his father.

The Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

NO DEVELOPMENTS AT MONROE

MONROE, Ga.—There were no new developments this week in the lynching of four Negroes six weeks ago by a mob of twenty whites. Despite the furnishing of seven names of mob members to the FBI by the NAACP and other groups, no arrests have been made. Sat. 9-7-46

NEW YORK—"Sam Mettrick Sr. of Cotton Valley was ringleader of the Louisiana mob that lynched my cousin John C. Jones, and beat me into unconsciousness near Minden nearly a month ago." 17-year-old Albert (Sonnyman) Harris Jr. told a press conference Thursday in NAACP headquarters here.

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Harris and his father arrived here Wednesday in the company of Madison Jones, NAACP administrative assistant, after playing hide and seek with members of the mob who invaded Texas to "finish off" young Harris, whom they left for dead at the site of the lynching, and to get "even" with the senior Harris, who aided his tortured son in getting out of Louisiana.

The two Harrises, who were found in Texas by NAACP representatives, are being closely guarded by the NAACP and FBI.

GASH OVER EYE

As young Harris told his story to the press, a large, slow-healing gash over his left eye, and bruises on his wrists and ankles stood out as glaring evidence of the torture he suffered at the hands of the blood-thirsty mob.

He was positive that Mettrick was the leader of the lynch gang, and said he was sure of another member of the mob—"Slim" Perkins, also of Cotton Valley. (The Pittsburgh Courier last week listed the names of thirteen lynch suspects obtained by Daniel E. Byrd, president of the Louisiana NAACP branches.) The Courier

Young Harris said he and Sam Mettrick Jr. had been playmates all their lives. (Mettrick Jr. was one of the thirteen suspects listed by Byrd.) Pittsburgh Pa.

THE WAY IT HAPPENED

Here is the story as told by the star witness:

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Jones, a 28-year-old war veteran, was accused of attempting to rape Mettrick's wife and young Harris was accused of watching. The real reason of the arrest was that Jones refused to sell or let Mettrick keep a German Luger pistol he brought from overseas.

Harris was arrested twice, the first time at his home on July 31, and kept in jail for two days while Sheriff Charlie Edwards tried to make him confess that Jones enter Mettrick's house while he (Harris) acted as a lookout. When he refused to admit this lie, he was released. Sat. 9-7-46

BEATEN ON ROADSIDE

Harris' home is eighteen miles from the Minden (La.) jail, and he was barely out of Minden when three men climbed out of a parked car, threw him into the machine, and drove down the road where they met several more men. He was carried to a clump of bushes and beaten.

Harris was then driven to within one-half mile of his home, put out of the car and told not to mention what had happened. "Sam Mettrick Sr. was the leader of this gang."

Harris' father then drove him to Texas, a distance of 150 miles, and left him there for safekeeping. When the father returned, he was confronted by Sheriff Edwards of Springhill. The sheriff was with another armed man and both demanded the whereabouts of young Harris. The father said he had carried him to Little Rock, Ark. The men left, but returned forty minutes later and renewed their demands. When Mr. Harris gave the same answer, he was hit in the mouth by the sheriff. His front teeth were knocked out.

HELD IN JAIL

Mr. Harris then told where he had carried his son and agreed [illegible] him and return to Cotton Valley. Upon returning to the State, young Harris was rearrested Aug. 4. No charges were placed against him, but he was kept in jail until the day of the lynching.

Albert Harris was taken from his cell Aug. 8 and pushed into the back of a car. His hands and feet were tied with grass rope. As he was being pushed into the car, he saw his cousin in the front seat of another automobile.

Harris was told that he and Jones were going to be given a "good beating." The cars were driven for about half an hour. A hood over Harris' head prevented him from seeing where he was being taken.

STOOD ON HIS HEAD

After the cars had been stopped, he saw his cousin being shoved across a small creek. Harris was taken from the car he was in and knocked down when hit with the butt of a pistol. Lying on his face, face, he heard Mettrick Sr. giving orders. One man stood on his head while another untied his ankles. His feet were spread far apart and someone stood on his ankles. Several men with straps about two inches wide stood over him. Others held sticks as thick as his wrists. They then beat him about the body and head until he lost consciousness. All this occurred between 8:30 P. M. and 2 A. M.

FOUND COUSIN ALIVE

When he regained his senses, he went to the other side of the creek where the mob had taken Jones. He found his cousin still alive. Jones, who been beaten, mutilated and burned with an acetylene torch, asked for a drink of water. Harris crawled to the creek and filled one of his shoes with water and returned to the horribly mutilated man. He held Jones' head in his lap and let him drink. Jones died a few minutes later. Before dying, he told Harris to give the German pistol to another cousin.

By pure luck the boy found his way back to town. His father then took him to friends who suggested that they contact the NAACP. On advice of NAACP officials, father and son left town and went to Texas. Guided by NAACP officials, they then went to a Midwestern State, where they took the plane to New York.

FBI TAKES TESTIMONY

This testimony, given by the two Harrises, has been recorded by FBI agents, and immediate action in bringing the lynch suspects to trial is expected.

Immediately upon his arrival here, young Harris was attended by Dr. Robert S. Wilkinson. He made the following report:

"The deep scar on the boy's forehead, where he was beaten with the butt of a pistol, is still infected. There are healing scars on both wrists, arms and ankles caused by ropes. His thighs and buttocks are also badly scarred. He shows evidence of a severe shocking experience, but his youth and good physical condition will pull him through."

Young Harris is considered one of the most important witnesses ever found by the NAACP in its long years of fighting Southern lynch terror.

The senior Harris was employed in the mills of the International Paper Company, where he was head roller. He earned 85 cents an hour, and was a member of a jim-crow AFL union. White men doing the same work earned $1.25 an hour, he said.

7461

Negro Whipped, Drowned in La.

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

The southern lynching score rose again when the lashed, welted body of John C. Jones, Negro cotton seed oil refinery worker, was found yesterday in a small, private lake two miles from Minden, La. Fri 8-16-46

34a La.

Jones was lynched soon after his release from jail when a charge against him collapsed.

Deep bitten whip marks interlaced the body in many places, indicating that Ku Klux Klan floggers had been operating on the victim before the body was dumped into the lake.

Many "multiple bruises and contusions," which were apparently made by a "wide leather belt or a thick strap," were also reported by Deputy Coronor, Dr. R. Thomas Richardson of Webster Parish.

Richardson described the murder as "a lynching" by a "person or persons unknown." The body was found last Friday, but publicity on the case was suppressed.

Jones, like Roger Malcolm, one of the victims of the Walton County, Ga., quadruple lynching, had been let out of jail shortly before the killers got him. He was arrested last week after a white woman had asserted Jones and another man tried to enter her house. But she refused to press the charge, and Jones was released—to fall into the hands of the lynchers soon after.

A check up on friends of this woman, should be one of the obvious needs in an investigation of the lynching. A probe of Klan activities in Louisiana is also a necessary step. Fri 8-16-46

The Louisiana lynching follows the fatal flogging of Leon McTatie, Negro farm worker, near Lexington, Miss., July 29, and the murder of several Georgia Negroes since the Walton County massacre.

Negro's Death Is Laid To Beating By Mob

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.
Fri 8-16-46

Lynching

From Wire Dispatches.

Minden, La., Aug. 15.—Webster Parish officers are investigating the death of John C. Jones, 28-year-old Cotton Valley Negro who died a week ago, apparently of a beating administered by unidentified persons.

Assistant District Attorney Harmon C. Drew said today that no arrests had been made and that his office had no clews in connection with the reported mob action.

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Drew said there were reports that the mob consisted of from two to 10 men and that he had "several leads on which I expect to work tomorrow."

Coroner Thomas Richardson said a batch of lewd pictures of white women was found on the body and that the possession of these pictures might have had an influence on members of the mob.

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Companion Also Picked Up.

Attaches of Sheriff O. R. Haynes' office said Jones and a 17-year-old companion were picked up by unidentified persons last Thursday, shortly after the two Negroes had been released from the Parish Jail in Minden.

The Negroes had been arrested a week before on suspicion that they had attempted to break into the house of a white woman in Cotton Valley, Sheriff Haynes said.

The 17-year-old Negro, whose identity was withheld, was reported by Sheriff Haynes' office to have said that he and Jones were placed in separate automobiles by some men. Fri 8-16-46

Was Struck On Head.

He said he was struck on the head and remained unconscious for several hours and knew nothing of what had happened to his companion, Jones.

The body of Jones, a former Army corporal, was found later by a group of fishermen on Dorcheat Bayou last Friday.

The story was first made public yesterday with the report of Coroner Thomas Richardson that Jones died of "multiple bruises and abrasions sustained at the hands of a person or persons unknown."

Beaten From Head to Foot.

The coroner said the body showed marks of a beating administered from head to foot.

Richardson denied that parish authorities had suppressed news of Jones' death, which he described as "a lynching."

Richardson said Jones' injuries evidently had been inflicted by a "flat object"—such as a wide leather belt or a plank.

In Baton Rouge, the State capital, Governor James H. Davis refused to comment.

Richardson said the nature of the wounds indicated that the floggers had not intended to kill the Negro. Fri 8-16-46

He said the body was found in a very remote spot and that no autopsy had been made.

Jones' death is the first attributed to such action in Webster Parish since 1886. The last lynching in Louisiana was on October 13, 1938.

Negro Killed After Release From Jail

News
Birmingham, Ala.

SHREVEPORT, La., Aug. 15—(AP)—The fatal beating of a 28-year-old Negro near Minden, La., was revealed yesterday with the filing of a coroner's report attributing death to "multiple bruises and abrasions sustained at the hands of a person or persons unknown." Thur 8-15-46

Sheriff O. H. Haynes, of Webster Paris, said that the dead Negro, John C. Jones, and a companion had been held in the Parish jail after being identified by a Cotton Valley, La., woman as the two men she saw attempting to enter her house through a window.

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The sheriff said the Negroes were released Thursday after they had denied the charges and the woman's family had made no formal charges against them. He said the body of the dead Negro was found less than 24 hours later on the bank of Dorcheat Bayou, seven miles from Minden.

Deputy Coroner T. A. Richardson, who conducted the inquest, said that it was not possible to fix the time of death but that a watch found on the Negro had stopped at 10 o'clock.

Veil Of Mystery Still Cloaks Negro's Death

Birmingham, Ala.
News

MINDEN, La., Aug. 16—(AP)—Asst. Dist. Atty. Harmon C. Drew said today that officials in this Northwest Louisiana Parish had developed "several leads" in their investigation of the fatal beating of a 28-year-old Negro, but he declined to say whether he believed the Negro was lynched.

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Drew planned to confer with Dist. Atty. A. M. Wallace, due back in Minden today after an absence of several days, on the death by reputed mob violence of John C. Jones, whose body beaten from head to foot was found near here a week ago. Fri 8-16-46

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Jones, a former Army corporal, and another Negro were reportedly seized and spirited away soon after their release from jail.

They had been held for a time, but not charged, in connection with a reported attempt by two Negroes to enter a house in Cotton Valley, La.

Whipping Death Of Negro Probed

Richmond
Times-Dispatch

MINDEN, LA., Aug. 16—(UP)—A probe into the whipping death of a Negro oil refinery worker was launched here today, but District Attorney A. M. Wallace doubted he would find "much cooperation in obtaining names."

A coroner's report yesterday found that the Negro, John C. Jones, had been beaten to death "by a flat instrument" following his release from jail on charges of breaking into a home.

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A 17-year-old Negro who was released with Jones said that both were seized by "some white men" behind the jail and placed in separate automobiles.

He was knocked unconscious and later released unharmed, he said. He did not know what became of Jones until the discovery of the refinery worker's scar-latticed body last Friday. Sat 8-17-46

Assistant District Attorney H. H. Drew directed the questioning today, and he expressed the hope that his investigation "might lead to something."

Lynching Is Reported In Louisiana

Times-Dispatch
Richmond, Va.

Negro Is Found Beaten to Death

Fri. 8-16-46

MINDEN, LA., Aug. 15—(UP)—The body of a 28-year-old Negro who "carried pictures of nude white women" was found beaten to death on the dam of a small lake near here last Friday, and Deputy Coroner Thomas Richardson today described the killing as a lynching.

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The Negro was John C. Jones, oil refinery worker who had been released from jail the day before, after a white woman who complained he tried to enter her home did not file formal charges.

Jones' body was marked with slashes and bruises, which Richardson said apparently had been inflicted by a flat object, such as a wide leather belt or a thick plank.

A coroner's jury attributed death to "multiple bruises and abrasions at the hands of a person or persons unknown."

At Tuskegee, Ala., the Tuskegee Institute for Negroes said it had not recorded Jones' death as a lynching, pending an official report on the case.

Has No Clues

Sheriff O. H. Haynes said he had no clues. Jones was released from the Webster Parish jail here last Thursday afternoon. The sheriff fixed the time of death as 11 P. M. (EST) Thursday night. Jones' smashed watch had stopped at that hour. The body was found the next day, and the coroner said decomposition had begun.

Haynes said Jones had been arrested on the complaint of a white woman at Cotton Valley, La., that he and another Negro tried to enter her home. She did not press charges, however, and the two Negroes were released late Thursday afternoon.

The sheriff said funeral services were held for Jones yesterday.

Richard denied that the case had been suppressed. It was not brought to light, he said, until the coroner's report was filed.

Governor James H. Davis in Baton Rouge had no comment.

Meanwhile, Attorney-General Tom C. Clark declared at Cambridge, Ohio, today that he would ask the new Congress for legislation to protect citizens against

1946

outbursts of racial hatred.

Federal Limitations

"Federal action in most of these cases hangs upon a very thin thread of law," Clark said. "It is like trying to fight a modern atomic war with a Civil War musket."

The Department of Justice has been investigating the recent lynching of four Negroes in Walton County, Ga., by a white mob, but no progress has been reported.

Haynes said he "couldn't recall" the name of the white woman who made the complaint about Jones. He said late today that his investigation was stagnant because so far no clues had been discovered.

The sheriff said the Negro had a large collection of pictures of "nude white women" in his pockets when the body was found.

Tuskegee said five lynch deaths have been recorded so far this year—the Walton County, Ga., incident in which four died, and the fatal whipping of a Negro near Lexington, Miss.

The last recorded Louisiana lynching was on Oct. 13, 1938, when R. C. Williams, a Negro, was killed by a mob in Lincoln Parish, about 40 miles east of here. Williams was accused of beating a white woman and killing her male companion.

Lynching Witness Located

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

Thurs. 8-29-46

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Albert Harris, the 17-year-old Negro eyewitness to the blow torch and meat cleaver lynching of veteran John C. Jones at Minden, Louisiana, Aug. 7, has been located with his father and given protection by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Harris can definitely identify at least five members of the lynch mob that took him and Jones from the Minden jail where they had been held without charge in connection with an alleged robbery. Jones' horribly mutilated and burned body was found floating in a lake near Minden Aug. 14. Subsequently an NAACP investigator learned of Harris who had been left for dead by the lynchers, but was only severely wounded, and managed to escape to Texas.

FORMED ANOTHER MOB

The investigator then discovered that the lynchers also knew of Harris' escape and had formed another mob to go and finish him off.

This information was wired to NAACP headquarters with an urgent appeal for help from the investigator.

Plans were made for air evacuation of Harris from Texarkana, Tex., Aug. 19, but he never reached the rendezvous. Later the investigator discovered a clue that indicated the elder Harris had taken his son from the hiding place and headed north. Harris Senior had previously been brutally beaten by Minden mobsters in an effort to make him reveal the whereabouts of his son.

ESCAPED TO MICHIGAN

Both badly wounded and in need of medical attention, they made their way to a small northern Michigan town where they contacted local NAACP officials. Oliver W. Harrington, NAACP public relations director announced yesterday that both father and son are being closely guarded and are en route to New York, where their information concerning the Louisiona lynchers will be given to the FBI.

Jones' lynching was one of the most horrible in recent years. He was beaten, chopped with a cleaver, and burned about the face with a blow torch until his eyes popped from their sockets.

The NAACP investigator learned that the mob had taken Jones and Harris from the jail by pre-arrangement with the jailer.

Roanoke, Va., Times
Aug. 16, 1946

OFFICIALS PROBE DEATH OF NEGRO

Apparently Died of Beating by Unknown Persons

34a

MILDEN, La., Aug. 15 (AP).—Webster parish officers are investigating the death of John C. Jones, 28-year-old Cotton Valley Negro, who died a week ago apparently from a beating administered by unidentified persons.

Assistant District Attorney Harmon C. Drew said today that no arrests had been made and that his office had as yet no clues in connection with the reputed mob action.

Coroner Thomas Richardson said that a batch of lewd pictures of white women was found on the body of the Negro and that the possession of these pictures might have had an influence on the killer.

Attaches of Sheriff O. H. Haynes' office said Jones and a 17-year-old companion were picked up by unidentified persons last Thursday, shortly after the two Negroes had been released from the parish jail in Minden.

Arrested on Suspicion

The Negroes had been arrested a week before upon suspicion that they had attempted to break into the house of a white woman in Cotton Valley, Sheriff Haynes said.

The sheriff said the white housewife later identified the Negroes as the two who tried to enter her home, but that no formal charges were filed, and the Negroes were released.

The 17-year-old Negro, whose identity was withheld, was reported by Sheriff Haynes' office to have said that he and Jones were placed in separate automobiles by some men.

He said that he was struck on the head and remained unconscious for several hours and knew nothing of what had happened to his companion, Jones.

The body of Jones, a former army corporal, was found later by a group of fishermen on Dorcheat bayou last Friday.

The story was first made public yesterday with the report of Coroner Thomas Richardson that Jones died of "multiple bruises and abrasions sustained at the hand of a person or persons unknown."

Signs of Beating

The coroner said the body showed marks of a beating administered from head to foot.

Dr. Richardson said the nature of the wounds indicated that the floggers had not intended to kill the Negro but only to whip him.

He said the body was found in a very remote spot and that no autopsy had been made. District Attorney A. M. Wallace, to whom a report was made by Sheriff Haynes, is out of town and may not comment until he returns to his office, it was said here.

State police at Shreveport said they would not enter the case unless requested to do so by the district attorney.

Jones' death is the first attributed to such action in Webster parish since 1886.

Footnote To John C. Jones

The Informer Houston, Texas

34a La.

Sat. 9-28-46

John E. Rousseau, Jr., city editor of the New Orleans Informer and Sentinel, writing about the lynching of John C. Jones near Minden, La., reported this revealing fact: "John C. Jones and his little family had lived in a little two-room house at the side of the lane leading into the main colored section." It is the desire on the part of so many people of the white South to keep Negroes and their families in little two-room shacks that accounts for much of the Southern lynch psychology. If this desire could be replaced by an equally ardent desire to give decent housing, education and other civic benefits to all of the people of the South, without regard to race, much of the lynch and poll tax and disfrancnisement psychology would automatically disappear.

Lynch Witness Disappears

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 8-21-46

34a

Albert Harris, eyewitness to the Minden, La., lynching of Negro veteran John C. Jones last Aug. 7 has disappeared, according to reports received by the New York office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

NAACP investigators had made arrangements for flying Harris to New York, after it was learned a lynch mob from Louisiana was on the way to Texas to get him.

Harris and Jones were taken from the Minden jail by a mob to a swamp about seven miles from the town. Harris was shot and feigned death while he watched the mob beat and burn Jones with a blow torch. After they left he escaped into Texas.

Jones was burned all over. His wrists were chopped off with a cleaver, and his eyes had popped out of his head from the white hot flame of the torch. The body was found floating in the swamp lake Aug. 14, seven days later.

FIVE NAMES UNCOVERED

NAACP investigators have uncovered the names of five of the lynchers, which have been given to the Department of Justice. One was a woman.

Harmon Drew, assistant district attorney for Webster Parish, said he did not know the lynchers. He knew of Harris' escape. It is reported that Albert Harris, Sr., father of the eyewitness, was beaten in an effort to compel him to disclose the whereabouts of his son.

Negro residents of Cotton Valley, where most of the lynchers live, are fearful that they will be attacked since it is generally known who was in the mob.

Minden is a hotbed of racial prejudice. When Roosevelt Hollingsworth, a resident of California, came to Minden in February, 1946, in a Buick automobile, Minden police beat him, took his car away and sold it to a white teacher.

Jones and Harris had been accused of breaking into a garage. They were held for a week without charges being brought against them. It is reported they were turned over to the mob by the Minden deputy sheriff:

Minden Still Powder Keg Month After Jones' Lynching

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 9-21-46

34a

MINDEN, La. — A tension so strong that it can be felt, mutual distrust of one race for another and flaring tempers this week characterized the wake of the month-old lynching of John C. Jones, 28-year-old war veteran here.

Mere residence in this town has become so unbearable for most Negroes that scores are reportedly making plans to leave the whole ugly atmosphere behind them.

Minden was never a Utopia, but there is hardly a better example than this of how a lynching can demoralize a community and destroy whatever basis of racial understanding ever existed.

Jails "Suspicious" Tourists

Two of many of the little instances that have occurred since that sadistic holiday point up the temper of the community today. In one a party of Negro tourists enroute from California to Chicago, were unceremoniously clamped into jail because the presence of a white boy in the group aroused suspicion.

In the other, an automobile accident almost developed into a major incident.

Miss Hattie Walker and five companions were taken into custody here on Sunday, Sept. 1, when they stopped here and sat under a tree to eat lunch and a white child was seen in the party, police said. Mrs. Walker told police she was taking care of the child, a 5-year-old boy named Gregg Gene Giddens, for his mother who lives in Palm Springs, Calif., and that she was taking him on a vacation trip to Chicago.

Woman's Story Confirmed

Police Chief B. G. Gantt said Monday that he had been informed by Los Angeles police who talked with the California white woman that Mrs. Walker was caring for the child and had obtained permission to take him on the trip.

Others arrested with Mrs. Walker were, Hosea Grubbs and Columbus Grubbs, of Montgomery, Ala.; Wayne G. Smith, East St. Louis, Ill.; Andrew J. Stokes, Montgomery, Ala., and Miss Addie Walker, of East St. Louis.

On Monday, Sept. 2, John and George Jones, residents of Minden, were taken into custody by state police after they had been involved in an altercation with a white man, James A. Griggs, of Minden, following an automobile accident on Highway 80. The two brothers were charged with threatening Griggs' life and were ordered held for further investigation.

7462

Involve Louisiana Sheriff As Accomplice in Forcing Veteran in Lynchers' Car

The Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa
Thurs. 9-12-46

34a

New York—What is described by an NAACP official as "almost dramatic break in the current wave of lynch terror hovering over southern Negro communities" is expected almost momentarily. The lynching of John C. Jones, Negro war veteran whose mutilated body was found in a Louisiana swamp, may provide the opening wedge in the desperate drive being conducted by the Association to drive lynch mobs out of existence.

La.

Focal point in the drive is Albert Harris, shy, gangling 17-year-old Negro youth who owes his life to the bungling of Louisiana "law enforcement" officers and the Louisiana lynch mob which apparently possessed a rther startling knowledge of developments in the local sheriff's office.

The testimony of young Harris and his father, who fled with him from what would have been certain death in Minden, Louisiana, was of such a positive nature as to virtually assure immediate federal action. The youth, whose body bears a raw pattern of unhealed scars from the lyncher's clubs, ropes and leather straps, unhesitatingly named several members of the mob, all of whom he has known for many years.

Damaging Part

The most damaging part of the dramatic story told by the youth, which provides a basis for federal intervention, clearly implicates the Minden deputy sheriff. According to testimony which has been made available to the Department of Justice by the NAACP, Sheriff Haynes released young Harris and his cousin, veteran John Jones, from the local jail, after having held them for several days despite the fact that the woman whom the youth had allegedly planned to rape refused to charge them with any crime.

By a remarkably strange coincidence, the mob knew exactly when Sheriff Haynes planned to release the youths so that when they appeared in the door leading from the jail the mob had already assembled. Young Harris then stated that the men who grabbed Jones seemed to have trouble forcing the struggling veteran into one of the cars. It was at this point that Haynes, sworn protector of law and order, helped force Jones into the lynchers car.

According to Robert Carter, NAACP counsel, the action taken by Sheriff Haynes in assisting the lynchers appears to be a clear-cut violation of civil rights granted citizens under the 14th Amendment. Since the sheriff, a responsible representative of the state's law enforcement agency, acted as an accomplice to the act, it become a matter demanding federal intervention.

Walter Winchell, in his radio broadcast of August 29, stated:

"A war veteran who was lynched here had his hands chopped off and a blow torch was held to his face as he lay down. If the Department of Justice will protect six available eye-witnesses, Walter White will produce them all. If necessary, federal troops should be ordered, I think, to protect those witnesses so that they can take the stand in court. Department of Justice has a complete case. Until this mob goes to trial the Justice Department itself is on trial. Of course the lynch mob—if it is wise to precedent—will demand to be tried together in a group like the 26 alleged seditionists. That will keep them out of [illegible]."

Lashing Death Blamed on 'Persons Unknown'

Daily News
Washington, D.C.

By United Press

Fri 8-16-46
34a

MINDEN, La., Aug. 16—The name of John C. Jones, 28-year-old Negro, today apparently was to be added to the growing list of recent violent Southern deaths attributed to "person or persons unknown."

Officials said that they were "without clue" in the slaying of the Cotton Valley oil refinery workers whose body was found near here August 9, in what Deputy Coroner Thomas Richardson described as a "lynching."

Sheriff O. H. Haynes said he did not plan to ask for state or Federal aid in his investigation.

'PLEASE DON'T TAKE ME'

Jones' battered and decomposing body was found one day after he had been released from jail here. He had been jailed after a white woman accused him of attempting to break into her house. The Negro was released when she failed to place a formal charge.

Attaches at Haynes office said a 17-year-old, unidentified Negro youth, arrested and released with Jones, reported that he and Jones were accosted by "some white men" behind the jail shortly after being freed.

Haynes said he had heard "about a little disturbance" behind the jail shortly after the Negroes were released. He said that someone reported that they heard a voice pleading, "Please don't take me."

SLASHES AND BRUISES

The youth said he and Jones were forced into different cars. He said he didn't know what happened to Jones because he had been knocked unconscious by a head blow shortly after entering the auto. He said he was released unharmed after regaining consciousness.

Fri 8-16-46

Jones' body, discovered on the dam of a small lake near Minden, bore slashes and bruises which the coroner said apparently came from a wide leather belt or thin plank.

A coroner's jury attributed death to "multiple bruises and abrasions at the hands of a person or persons unknown." The case did not come to light until the coroner's report was filed.

La. Mob Victim's Testimony May Spur Antilynch Drive

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 9-14-46

34a

NEW YORK — The lynching of John C. Jones, war veteran, whose multilated body was found in a Louisiana swamp, recently, may provide the opening wedge in the campaign being conducted by the NAACP to drive lynch mobs out of existence.

Three developments adding impetus to the antilynching drive came to light last week. They were:

U.S. Can Intervene

1. The fact that testimony of 17-year-old Albert Harris, who owes his life to the bungling of the lynch mob and his own cleverness, provides a basis for Federal intervention.

2. The sordid story that oil rights obtained under peculiar circumstances from the lynched veteran's 76-year-old grandfather may emerge as a motive for the "blow torch killing.

3. That national radio commentators gave so much more of an accurate picture of the lynching than did daily newspaper accounts that press services may be forced to change their tactics in reporting lynchings.

Sheriff Aids Lynchers

By implicating the Minden Deputy Sheriff Haynes in the lynching, young Harris has opened the way for the Department of Justice to prosecute the case.

34a

Harris testified that Sheriff Haynes released Jones and himself from the local jail after having held them for several days despite the fact that the woman whom the youths allegedly planned to rape refused to charge them with any crime.

His testimony revealed that the mob knew exactly when the sheriff planned to release the youths, so that when they appeared at the jail door, the mob had already assembled.

Harris further testified that Sheriff Haynes, sworn protector of law and order, helped a mob member force Jones into the lynchers' car.

The Afro-American

Inasmuch as the action taken by the sheriff in assisting the lynchers appears to be a clear-cut violation of civil rights, guaranteed the 14th amendment, it become a matter demanding Federal intervention.

Baltimore, Md.

Regarding the motive for the lynching, a matter that might further shock the nation into demanding antilynching activity Mr. Harris Sr., Albert's father presents that of the "peculiarly leased" oil rights.

He said that many years ago, the youth's grandfather, an illiterate man, leased rights to several oil wells discovered on his property to powerful oil syndicates.

Mr. Harris revealed that the aged man is only receiving $1.50 per month for the leased property, although one of the wells is "pouring oil by the thousands of barrels."

Sat. 9-14-46

No Nude Pictures

Motive for the lynching was deliberately withheld from newspaper men, who were given the story that pictures of nude white women found on Jones so angered the "chivalrous" southerners that they lost control.

It has since been established that both Jones and Harris were thoroughly searched by law enforcement officers during their stay at the Minden jail, and if they had such pictures on them, officers would have confiscated them.

More credence can be given to the "oil motive" because of the fact that the woman the boys were accused of planning to assault refused to press charges against them.

Press Bias Shown

That press services gave biased pictures of the lynching was revealed by news commentators on the radio, who presented facts omitted by those services.

Significantly, the press services reported the finding of nude pictures ,but failed to mention the fact that Jones had been tortured by a blow torch and horribly mutilated by the lynchers.

Yet, Walter Winchell, in his coast-to-coast radio broadcast of Aug. 29, stated:

"A war veteran who was lynched here had his hands chopped off and a blow torch was held to his face as he lay down."

In the same broadcast, Mr. Winchell stated that if necessary Federal troops should be ordered to protect witnesses who can identify members of the lynch mob.

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in the oil fortune on the land of their grandfather.

Sheriff Blamed In Minden Death; Hint Oil Motive

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 9-14-46

NEW YORK — Iron-clad evidence that a Minden County, La., deputy sheriff helped force John C. Jones into the lynch car was disclosed this week at the same time that the NAACP representatives revealed that oil on the property of the dead veteran may possibly have been a strong motive for murder.

The fact that Sheriff Haynes helped force Jones into the lynchers' car is in the hands of the Department of Justice. It was told by Jones' cousin, gangling 17-year-old Albert Harris, who owes his life to the bungling of a Louisiana mob despite the remarkably strange co-incidence that the mob awaited the two youths when they walked from the local jail.

Oil Theory Grows

The oil motive looms large in the NAACP investigation because of its powerful financial makeup. According to reports, oil was discovered many years ago on the land of Jones' grandfather, though since that time the man has remained poverty stricken, unable to read or write, while one of the wells continues to produce thousands of barrels of oil.

Testimony of young Harris and his father, Albert Harris Sr., who fled Louisiana with his son, is of such a positive nature as to virtually assure immediate federal action. The youth, who wears the scars of lynchers' clubs, guns, straps and ropes, has unhesitatingly named several members of the mob, all of whom he has known for many years.

Most damaging part of Harris' story, which provides a startlingly clear basis for federal intervention, definitely implicates the Minden deputy sheriff.

According to testimony, Sheriff Haynes released young Harris and his cousin, veteran John Jones, from the local jail, after having held them for several days despite the fact that the woman whom Jones had allegedly planned to rape refused to prefer charges.

Mob Awaited Youths

By some strange co-incidence the mob knew exactly when Sheriff Haynes planned to release the youths so that when they appeared at the jail door the lynchers had already assembled.

Young Harris then stated that the men who grabbed Jones seemed to have trouble forcing the struggling veteran into one of the cars. It was at this point that Haynes helped force Jones into the lynchers' car. Defender

34a

Out in the Louisiana woods Jones was killed with a blow torch and cleaver. His hands were chopped off and the blow torch held to his face as he lay on the ground. Chicago, Ill.

Harris, thought to be dead, and left temporarily, escaped with his family. With the aid of the NAACP, he and his family were brought here after a hectic chase by the disappointed lynchers.

Jones was the grandson of the aged Negro on whose land several oil wells were discovered and later "leased" to a powerful oil syndicate. Sat. 9-14-46

Harris Sr., states that one large well is still producing thousands of barrels a year for which the "owner" receives $1.50 per month. The circumstances under which rights to the wells were obtained were considered odd by Harris, who said that the man could neither read nor write.

It is thought in numerous sources that the youths were slated for death because of the family tie-up

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'They Cut Off His Hands...

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

34a

By John Hudson Jones

The Louisiana lynchers didn't murder John C. Jones because he went into a white woman's yard. They just didn't like the way he talked when he came back from three years in England, Belgium and Germany.

To them he was a "bad uppity n - - - - r." He wanted to know why his grandfather, Old Man Charlie Robbins, was getting only 39 cents a month from the oil wells on his land. And he brought back a German Luger too.

So they chopped off his hands and blow-torched his skin to charcoal—they had to "git 'im."

But there's a lot more behind it than just Jones and his Luger. Albert Harris, Sr., father of the boy they left for dead beside Jones, told more of it, in his quiet, strong way.

'SICK AND TIRED'

Tues 9-3-46

"The Negroes down in Webster Parish are gittin' sick and tired of them white folks kicking them around. Most all of 'em want to git away as soon as they can. I'd been thinking about it about a long time before my boy got hurt."

Harris, a saw mill worker belonged to an AFL Jimcrow union.

"We paid the same dues as the white folks, but they made a dollar and a quarter a hour, and we made 85 cents."

Most of the Negroes in the parish are farm hands, who earn from 18 to 20 dollars a month. Harris can remember several lynchings when he was farming.

"In 1928 I found Porter MacAway laying in the field down the road a-piece from my place. He had started to rot away. Guess he got into trouble about some shares. They don't like for us to make much."

'COULDN'T READ'

"Jones' gran'daddy, Old Man Charlie Robbins, couldn't read or write, and he had at least six oil wells to come in on his land. They cheated him out of it though. I guess at most he got a $1.60 a month when they were all running."

9-3-46

Jones bought a car when he came back. One day he hit a telephone pole. The police in Cotton Valley made him pay them $150. And in Feb. 1946, Roosevelt Hollingsworth, from California, came back home to Minden in a Buick. The police beat him, took his car, and sold it to a white teacher.

It all adds up. Different wages for Negroes and whites. Near slavery for Negro farm hands. Death to Negro veterans. A family uprooted and driven away from its property. A whole community of citizens terrorized. It's profitable to the bosses of the South.

Vet Tortured, Slain By Mob In Bayou Murder

Defender

Chicago, Ill.

LATE BULLETIN FLASH!!!

NEW YORK—NAACP officials were racing today against a Louisiana mob in a desperate attempt to save the life of Albert Harris, 17, eye-witness to the murder of Army Veteran John C. Jones. Harris was shot by the same mob but feigned death and escaped to Texas. The mob is now on its way to the Texas town to seize the youth.

By JOHN E. ROUSSEAU JR. Saturday
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

34a

MINDEN, La.—To the blood-dripping trail [redacted] lynchings last week was added another name, a vet[redacted] World War II against fascism, buried in a flag-[redacted] coffin, murdered by a crazed mob while wearing [redacted] form of his country.

The murder was brut[redacted]erate. It followed the p[redacted] the quadruple lynching in [redacted] County, Ga. It is anoth[redacted] of the expected "Holy War" [redacted] Negroes in the South. News [redacted] killing was suppressed for [redacted]

The dead man is John [redacted] 28 year old former army [redacted] of Cotton Valley who wa[redacted] with his first cousin, know[redacted]bert "Sunny Man" Harris, [redacted] the pair had been told to [redacted] Parish jail here where th[redacted] been held on complaint of [redacted] white woman.

An on-the-scene investiga[redacted] covered full details of the [redacted] in which an acetylene [redacted] cleaver, a heavy belt, a rev[redacted] knife and an ice pick [redacted] agonizing death to [redacted], his cousin, was sho[redacted] escaped by "playing de[redacted]

[redacted] At Jail Door

[redacted] investigation showe[redacted] had been told to le[redacted] jail at Minden and [redacted] seized by an unmasked [redacted] the threshold of [redacted]her news sources sta[redacted] had been freed after the [redacted]oman had refused to press [redacted] that they had "annoyed" her.

The mob, divided into automobile loads approached the jail door, and, because Jones ,was afraid to accompany them struck him over the head, knocking him unconscious.

They then carried Jones and walked Harris to the automobiles and drove away.

Jones' hacked and burned body was found at an isolated, heavily wooded spot on Dorcheat Bayou seven miles north of this town. A party of fishermen was reported to have found the body, clad in the same GI clothes in which Jones had received his honorable discharge.

The former corporal had been awarded the Asiatic, European and American theatre ribbons, along with World War II victory medal.

Persons located here Saturday told of hearing a man screaming "Don't take me" as they passed the jail while returning from a nearby theatre. They told of seeing two men being taken from the jail. One was walking and the other was carried, they declared.

Police here said the lynched man who is survived by a widow, Mrs. Carrie Lee Hendleton Jones, 25, and a four-year-old daughter, Myrtis Ann, met his death at the hands of "parties unknown." It was learned however, that the identity of five of the mob members was known and had been turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

8-24-46 34a Defender

Beat Youth's Father

After Harris had escaped death and returned home, his father was beaten by the mob when he refused to tell where his son had gone after fleeing the lynch scene. The youth and his father are said to have left the state. Chicago, Ill.

R. Harmon Drew, assistant district attorney of Webster Parish said Saturday morning that no information had been received as to the identity of the mob. Sat.

The matter was first brought to public attention Thursday, Aug. 13, date of Jones' funeral, when a report submitted by Deputy Coroner T. A. Richardson stated Jones had died of "multiple bruises and abrasions" sustained at the hands of a "person or persons unknown."

The local NAACP branch pointed out that a check of Cotton Valley and its relative position to Minden makes it impossible for a mob to leave Cotton Valley and arrive at the Minden jail at the exact time of the prisoners' release without cooperation of persons in Minden.

7463

Flog Death Of Negro Jails Six

Constitution
Atlanta Ga
Wed 7-31-46

34a

LEXINGTON, Miss., July 30—(UP)—Six white Mississippi landowners have been charged with murder in the fatal flogging of a Negro whose body was later dumped in a bayou, County Att. Pat M. Barrett disclosed Tuesday.

The Negro, Leon McTatie, 35, was beaten with a leather strap and a buggy whip, according to Mrs. Dixie Roberts, wife of one of the accused.

The flogging occurred on July 22, Barrett said, and McTatie's body was found floating two days later, clad in blue jeans, in a bayou 60 miles away near Indianola in Sunflower County. The body was discovered by a Negro fisherman setting hooks.

Tuskegee Institute said McTatie's death would be recorded as a lynching, the second in the South in 10 days. Four Negroes were shot to death by a lynch mob near Monroe, Ga., last Thursday.

McTatie was a tenant on the 300-acre farm of Dixie Roberts, one of the accused white men.

Mrs. Roberts quoted her husband as saying that he and her father-in-law, Vernon Vale, went to McTatie's tenant house after other Negroes had accused him of stealing a saddle.

They beat him with a leather strap and buggy whip, she said, and told him to "go on down the road." This meant, she said, to get off the farm. 7-31-46

Roberts told his wife the four other men held in the flogging were not involved, but were arrested with him and Vale as all were returning to Lexington from an inspection of Roberts' plantation. Wed 7-31-46

All were being held without bond.

Barrett identified the other four men as Jeff Dodd, owner of the saddle which McTatie allegedly had stolen; Jeff Dodd, Jr., Spencer Ellis and James E. Roberts, nephew of Dixie Roberts.

Sheriff W. L. Murtagh said it was "evident" the Negro was thrown from a car into the bayou, but Roberts denied this.

Murtagh disclosed that on Friday, July 19, Dodd had sworn out a warrant for McTatie's arrest, charging that he had stolen a saddle. McTate was jailed.

The next day, Saturday, Dodd made bond for the Negro, the Sheriff said, stating that "I need him to help me make my cotton [illegible]

took place. Two days later, McTatie's wife went to Murtagh and told him she feared her husband was dead because he had not been home since Monday. The same day that she was talking to the Sheriff, the body was found in the bayou 60 miles away.

Ironically, the Sheriff said, McTatie was not guilty of the theft of the saddle as two other Negroes later confessed they had stolen it.

Roberts Tuesday night acknowledged the Negro had been beaten but denied he had been killed.

"We whipped him and ordered him to leave this section," Roberts said. "The last we saw of him he was running down the road."

Sunflower County Sheriff E. W. Williams said there were no recognizable marks on the Negro's body when taken from the water.

The coroner, William Sais, returned a verdict of "cause of death unknown," and the body was buried in Sunflower County Potter's Field. Atlanta Ga.

But it was exhumed under an order of Circuit Judge S. F. Davis and sent to Holmes County for an autopsy, Williams said.

Meanwhile, Speaker of the Mississippi House Walter Sillers said "a crime of that nature can only be described as reprehensible. It is to be regretted that any group, regardless of color, could commit such an act." 7-31-46 Wed

Mississippi's last lynching was on March 26, 1944, when a Negro minister, Rev. Isaac Simmons, was taken from his home near Liberty and shot to death by a mob.

LEXINGTON, [illegible] July 30 [illegible] Sheriff Walter L. Murtagh said today six white men were held on charges of murder in connection with the death of Leon McTatie, Negro who was employed by one of them.

34a

Murtagh said three of the men had admitted whipping McTatie, but said they did not think they had hurt him.

Murtagh related the story thus: McTatie, who worked on the Elder Dodd's farm at West, was in jail here charged with stealing three saddles. The Elder Dodd obtained his release by offering to pay court costs and withdraw charges, saying the case had been "compromised."

The Negro disappeared from the community. Wed. 7-31-46

Last Wednesday, a Negro's body was found floating in a bayou near Indianola, in Sunflower County. It was buried Thursday, but exhumed Sunday after McTatie's wife had told County Attorney Pat M. Barrett that her husband had been beaten before his disappearance.

The body was brought here and identified as McTatie's.

No autopsy had yet been held today. A hearing by a justice of the peace is scheduled to determine if the men charged will be bound over to the grand jury.

Negro Flogged to Death; 6 Held in Mississippi

Daily Worker
Wed. 7-31-46
New York

34a

LEXINGTON, Miss., July 30 (UP).—Sheriff W. L. Murtagh said late today Leon McTatie was not quilty of the theft for which he was lynched. The guilty persons had confessed, he added.

Six white men have been charged with the whipping to death of a Negro whom they accused of stealing a saddle, Holmes County attorney Pat M. Barrett said yesterday, the United Press reported from Lexington, Miss.

The body of Leon McTatie, Negro, was found in a Sunflower County Bayou last Wednesday, Barrett said, and the six men were arrested early Monday morning. Wed. 7-31-46

Sheriff W. L. Murtagh said, "it was evident" the Negro had been thrown into the Bayou from a car and that he was dead at the time.

At least some of the six men charged have admitted whipping the Negro on Monday (of last week) over the alleged theft of a saddle, Barrett said. "The whipping allegedly occurred on a farm near West, Miss., when McTatie denied stealing the saddle, which belonged to Jeff Dodd." New York

The county attorney identified the six men accused as Dodd and his son, Jeff Dodd, Jr., Vernon Hale and Spencer Ellis, all of Holmes County, and Dixie Roberts and his nephew, James E. Roberts, of Greenwood, Miss. N.Y.

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6 Men Held On Charge Of Murder

Times-Dispatch

LEXINGTON, MISS., July 30—(AP)—Holmes County Sheriff Walter L. Murtagh said today six white men were held on charges of murder in connection with the death of Leon McTatie, Negro, who was employed by one of them.

Murtagh said three of the men had admitted whipping McTatie, but said they did not think they had hurt him. Wed 7-31-46

Murtagh relate the story thus: McTatie, who worked on the elder Dodd's farm at West, was in jail here charged with stealing three saddles. The elder Dodd obtained his release by offering to pay court costs and withdraw charges, saying the case had been "compromised." Richmond

The Negro disappeared from the community. Virginia

Last Wednesday a Negro's body was found floating in a bayou near Indianola, in Sunflower County. It was buried Thursday, but exhumed Sunday after McTatie's wife had told County Attorney Pat M. Barrett that her husband had been beaten before his disappearance. Wed 7-31-46

The body was brought here and identified as McTatie's.

No autopsy had yet been held today. A hearing by a justice of the peace is scheduled to determine if the men charged will be bound over to the grand jury.

NEGRO DEATH LAID TO MISSISSIPPIANS

~~N.Y. Times~~

Six Are Accused of Murder When Body Is Found in a Bayou After Flogging

Wed. 7-31-46

LEXINGTON, Miss., July 30 (U.P.)—Six white Mississippi landowners have been charged with the murder of a Negro whose body was found in a bayou, County Attorney Pat M. Barrett said today.

34a

The Negro, Leon McTatie, 35, was flogged July 22, Mr. Barrett stated, and his body was found two days later about sixty miles away in Sunflower County.

Tuskegee Institute declared that it would record McTatie's death as a lynching.

New York

McTatie was a tenant on the farm of Dixie Roberts, one of the accused white men.

N.Y.

Mrs. Roberts quoted her husband as saying that he and her father-in-law, Vernon Vale, went to McTatie's tenant house after other Negroes had accused him of stealing a saddle. They beat him with a leather strap and buggy whip, she reported, and told him to "go on down the road." This meant, she added, to get off the farm.

Roberts acknowledged that the Negro had been beaten but denied he had been killed.

"We whipped him and ordered him to leave this section," Roberts said. "The last we saw of him he was running down the road." Wed. 7-31-46

Statement Absolves Four

Mrs. Roberts declared that her husband told her the four other men held in the flogging were not involved.

Mr. Barrett identified the other four men as Jeff Dodd, owner of the saddle which McTatie allegedly had stolen Jeff Dodd Jr., Spencer Ellis and James E. Roberts, nephew of Dixie Roberts.

Sheriff W. L. Murtagh said that it was "evident" the Negro was thrown from a car into the Bayou, but Roberts denied this.

Murtagh disclosed that on July 19, Dodd had sworn out a warrant for McTatie's arrest, charging theft of a saddle, and that McTatie was jailed, but that the next day Dodd made bond for the Negro, stating, "I need him to help me make my cotton crop."

The Sheriff said that McTatie was not guilty of the theft of the saddle because two other Negroes later confessed. Wed. 7-31-46

E. W. Williams, Sunflower County Sheriff, said that there were no recognizable marks on the Negro's body when it was taken from the water. The coroner, William Sais, returned a verdict of "cause of death unknown."

Mississippi's last proven cast of lynching was on March 26, 1944, when a Negro minister, the Rev. Isaac Simmons, was taken from his home near Liberty and sot to death by a mob. New York N.Y.

7463

7463

Stepsons Confess Crime Which Led To Miss. Lynching

The Informer

Five Whites To Face Grand Jury In October For Lynching Tenant Farmer

Houston, Texas

LEXINGTON, MISS. — Five white men were bound over to the October term of the Holmes County grand jury on bonds of $2,000 in connection with the lynching of Leon McTatie (sometimes known as McAtee), 35-year-old-tenant farmer, who was accused of stealing a saddle two weeks ago. A sixth man held in connection with the lynching was absolved Friday when the group faced a preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace W. D. Ford. 8-13-46

34a

Bound over to the grand jury which meets here on October 14 were Jeff Dodd, Sr., owner of a 300-acre farm on which the lynched man was a tenant; Jeff Dodd, Jr., 35, a traveling salesman and son of the other Dodd; D. G. "Dixie" Roberts, 41, a Greenwood, Mississippi taxicab operator; Private James E. Roberts, 18, a soldier home on furlough from a North Carolina base; and Spencer Ellis, a 62-year-old hill farmer. Vernon Vale, 56, was absolved of connection with the crime.

Meanwhile, it was brought out that McTatie was innocent of any crime when he was lynched, his two young stepsons, Jerry Lee Haywood, 16, and Robert Haywood, having confessed to the theft of the saddle. McTatie, according to witnesses, had been accused of stealing the saddle which was property of Jeff Dodd, Sr.

No defense was offered by Sandy King, Durant, Mississippi attorney, and Aubrey Bell, Greenwood, Mississippi attorney, representing the defendants, in the hearing which lasted 2½ hours.

At the hearing, District Prosecuting Attorney Howard Dyer, Jr., of Greenville, Miss., and County Prosecutor Pat M. Barrett presented several witnesses, including Mrs. Henrietta McTatie, common-wife of the lynched man.

[illegible] who [illegible] that McTatie had been [illegible] when he was accused of [illegible] the saddle, but July 22, Jeff Dodd, Sr. [illegible] gone to the jail and secured McTatie's release. [illegible] H. Nabors, deputy sheriff, said the elder Dodd has appeared in person to have McTatie released on July 22.

Mrs. McTatie testified that on the evening of July 22, the elder Dodd and several other white men had brought her husband home in a truck and he appeared to be "half dead". He showed signs of having been beaten, his face and head were swollen, he was dazed, and kept mumbling something about a "saddle", she said. The white men took him off with them and she never saw him alive again, she declared.

Mrs. Tatie also told how she was frightened and had taken her three small children that night to an adjoining plantation where she had formerly worked.

Two days later, on July 24, McTatie's body was found floating in Bay Lake, Sunflower county, [illegible] miles south of Indianola, which is [illegible] miles from here.

Sheriff W. L. Murtagh, who arrested the white men, said that three of the men admitted whipping McTatie, but denied killing him.

The man was reportedly whipped with a buggy whip and a leather strap. The planters said they had whipped him and ordered him to "go down the road" which meant to leave the county and not to come back. "He walked away" [illegible] declared.

Officers said that McTatie was dead when placed in the bayou and further stated that the body apparently had been thrown into the bayou from an automobile.

Coroner Williams Sias, who ordered the body buried in a pauper's grave, said "it was in a fair condition when we buried it."

The body was later exhumed under order of Circuit Judge [illegible] and turned over to Sheriff Murtagh for autopsy.

This town, bordering on the Delta section where the population is [illegible] percent Negro, has recently [illegible] trials of white persons [illegible] with killing Negroes and [illegible] white men were recently sentenced to 5-year-terms for slaying [illegible] while another is presently [illegible]

[illegible] HELD FOR [illegible] LYNCHING

[illegible], Ala.

[illegible] men, one a deputy [illegible] this week [illegible]

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in the search for killers who lined up and shot to death four Georgia Negroes on a country roadside.

At Lexington, Miss., Sheriff Walter E. Murtagh said three of six men held for a justice of peace hearing into the death of Leon McTatie had admitted whipping McTatie, a Negro farm worker. They were quoted by the sheriff as saying they did not think they had hurt him. 8-3-46

The body of McTatie, who had been accused of stealing three saddles from one of the six men, was found floating in a bayou. The six men were charged with murder, the sheriff said, and the justice of peace hearing was to decide whether they will be bound over to the Grand Jury. Sat.

At Hattisburg, Miss., Mayor J. D. Arrington of Collins announced Deputy Sheriff John Lewis was in jail awaiting a preliminary hearing today on a charge of murdering Buddy Wolf, 37-year-old Negro father of 10 children. Mayor Arrington [illegible] a murder warrant was issued by Judge J. P. Tims on an affidavit of Wolf's widow. The mayor quoted Lewis as saying he fired on Wolf in self defense.

In Washington, meanwhile, President Truman was quoted by Attorney Gen. Tom Clark as expressing "horror" at the massacre by an armed band of two young Negro farm hands, one a veteran, and their wives by a roadside near Monroe, Georgia.

The president directed the Justice Department, which already has assigned FBI agents to the case, to push its probe "with all its resources."

MISSISSIPPI

Awaiting Action

Time Magazine

The trail of lynch law led from the mob murder of four Negroes on a lonely Georgia roadside (TIME, Aug. 5) to a Mississippi bayou deep in the land of Bilbo. There it was marked by the battered corpse of a Negro tenant farmer floating in the scum. Mon 8-12-46

The body was what remained of 35-year-old Leon McAtee who had been locked up in Holmes County jail four days before on suspicion of stealing a saddle from a white planter named Jeff Dodd. After Dodd had pleaded that he needed McAtee to help harvest his corn crop, the sheriff released him to Dodd on payment of $15.25 jail costs. Then Jeff Dodd, his son and some neighbors led Leon McAtee down to the pasture.

With an inch-thick unstranded rope the white men in the pasture took turns at flogging their prisoner. McAtee's wife, watching from a clump of bushes, finally saw her husband doubled up in a truck heading down the road. When the body of Leon McAtee floated up in the bayou later, it was 60 miles from the scene of the flogging. Time Chicago, Ill.

Last week, after nearby Greenwood's enterprising *Morning Star* had broken the story of Mississippi's latest lynching (*see* PRESS), prosecutors in Holmes County (80% Negro) moved with commendable speed. Before a jampacked courtroom, District Attorney Harold Dyer Jr. accused Jeff Dodd, his son and three others of Leon McAtee's murder. Said he: "The citizen of Holmes County holds a white man accountable if he commits a crime, the same as he holds a Negro accountable." 8-12-46 mon

At the end of a three-hour hearing (which disclosed that Leon McAtee had not stolen a saddle after all), the local judge freed each of the accused under $2,000 bond until a grand jury convenes in October. Mon. 8-12-46

Near Collins, Miss. Buddy Wolfe, a Negro, dropped in to a highway cafe for a cup of coffee. Deputy Sheriff John Lewis dropped in at the same time, opened the ice box and demanded to be sold four pounds of lard. Lewis thought he overheard someone in the cafe make a critical remark. In the scuffle that followed Buddy Wolfe, father of ten, went down under a blackjack, was shot thrice. Last week Lewis was also free under $2,000 bond. The charge: murder. Time magazine

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Mobile, Ala. Press
Aug. 1, 1946

MISSISSIPPI LYNCHING HEARING SLATED FRIDAY

LEXINGTON, Miss. — (UP) — Holmes County Prosecuting Atty. Pat M. Barrett anounced today that preliminary hearing would be held Friday at 2 p.m. for six Delta planters charged with the flog-slaying of a 35-year-old colored field hand.

Barrett, after conferences last night with defense attorneys, said the hearing would be conducted before Justice of the Peace W. D. Ford. The Holmes County grand jury does not convene until October.

Held without bond, Dixie Roberts, Jeff Dodd, Sr., Jeff Dodd, Jr., Spencer Ellis, James E. Roberts and Vernon Vale, admitted beating Leon McTatie, a tenant on the Roberts plantation but said they did not kill him. McTatie had been accused of stealing a saddle from Roberts. Two other colored persons later admitted stealing the saddle.

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5 FACE OCTOBER GRAND JURY IN MISS. LYNCHING

The Weekly [illegible]

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Lexington, Miss., August 5— Five white landowners here are under $2,000 bond pending hearing by the October grand jury on charges of flogging to death recently of Leon McAtee, tenant farmer. Sat.

The sixth suspect [illegible], Vernon Vail, 56, was absolved of any connection in the lynching which grew out of alleged theft of a saddle by McAtee, later confessed by another person. McAtee's body was found in a bayou 60 miles from the scene of the flogging. Sat 8-10-46

The five released on bond pending grand jury action are Keff Dodd Sr., 65, on whose 300-acre farm McAtee was a tenant, and who admitted to county authorities he whipped the victim "but not enough to cause his [illegible] Dodd Jr., 35, traveling salesman for grocery store equipment; D. G. (Dixie) Roberts, 41, Greenwood taxicab operator, who also admitted participating in the flogging; Pvt. James E. Roberts, 18, at home on furlough from a North Carolina army base; and Spencer Ells, 62, farmer.

Among the first organizations to register vigorous protest over the lynching was the Southern Youth Congress which sent a telegram to President Truman, bringing to mind the fact that this is the sixth lynching in two weeks. The telegram said:

"Fascist minded brigands, goaded on by the Bilbo, Talmadge and KKK incitements . . . continue their individual and mob acts of murder—a white supremacy reign of terror blankets the southland while your Att. Gen. Clark fiddles with law books. . ."

The telegram went on to outline the various cases and to point out that no arrests have been made in the Georgia case. It went on to say:

"We demand that you issue an executive order banning the KKK; that you denounce Bilboism for what it is, fascism, and demand of the Senate that they not seat him in the next session . . . demand prompt action of Att. Gen. Clark under paid of removal from office; that you put the full resources of the Army and Navy Intelligence Departments at the service of the Department of Justice. . ."

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5 INDICTED FOR DEATH OF NEGRO BY FLOGGING

The Times New York, N.Y.

LEXINGTON, Miss., Oct. 9 (UP) — Five white men have been indicted for manslaughter in connection with the flogging death last July of Leon McAttee, 35 years old, a Negro tenant farmer whose body was found in a bayou.

Their indictment by a Holmes County grand jury were revealed as Sheriff W. L. Murtagh said that manslaughter warrants had been sworn out for their arrest. Thurs. 10-10-46

He said that four of the five had been released under $1,000 bond each. They were Jeff Odd Jr., 35; D. G. Roberts, 41; Spencer Ellis, 62, and Jeff Dodd Sr., 65, on whose 300-acre farm Mr. McAttee was a tenant.

The fifth defendant, Pvt. James E. Roberts, 19, was on duty at an Army base and had not been arrested.

The men were held for grand jury action on murder charges after Mr. McAttee's body was found in a Sunflower County bayou, sixty miles from here, two days after Mr. McAttee disappeared.

At that time the men admitted that they whipped Mr. McAttee for the alleged theft of a saddle. Mr. McAttee's two stepsons later confessed to the saddle theft.

34a 1946 Borderline Cases (General)

7441

Lynch Terror Mounts In South;

2 More Die at Hands of Mob

Sat 8-17-46 34k Gen.

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

Two more lynchings were reported in the South today. The tempo of mob killings of Negroes is rising to 1919 levels. J. C. Farmer, an ex-GI, who tilled a white man's farm near Bailey, in eastern North Carolina, was shot by a posse of 20 to 25 men in eight rs, while his mother stood helplessly a hundred yards away. James Walker, the other lynch victim, was struck down by a hail of bullets as he sat on his father's porth at Elko, S. C.

At least nine Negroes have been lynched in the South since Klan-backed candidate Eugene Talmadge, won Democratic nomination for the Governorship of Georgia. Sat 8-17-46

Three have been lynched since Sen. Theodore G. Bilbo (D-Miss) announced that he was a member of the KKK.

"The Negro people are bearing the full brunt of the fascist offensive." said secretary Revels Cayton of the National Negro Congress, as the latest mob murder news came in.

"The American people must rally overnight against this enemy within," he continued. **"White labor leaders and progressives will be the next victims."**

BULLETIN

The Mayor of Passaic, Nicholas Martini, today declared Sunday, Aug. 18, a day of mourning for the Georgia lynch victims

J. C. Farmer, the ex-GI, was lynched after a scuffle with a policeman who attacked him. Farmer worked with his parents on the Thad Sharp farm near Bailey.'

He was merrily laughing with two friends, while waiting for a bus to the city of Wilson, N. C., said his mother, Mrs. Mattie Farmer, when policeman Bisett ordered him into his car.

When Farmer said he had done nothing, the cop struck him on the head, and a tussle began, in which the officer's gun went off, shooting its owner through the hand. The posse killed Farmer an hour later.

James Walker, the other victim, was the target of a **"stream of bullets,"** said James McCray, editor of a Negro newspaper, who witnessed the Elko killing.

Editor McCray asked Gov. Ransome J. Williams to investigate the lynching. He said he saw Bill Craig, a white filling station owner, and Craig's brother John, firing the shots. Two other white men with them were apparently involved in the shooting. Sat 8-17-46

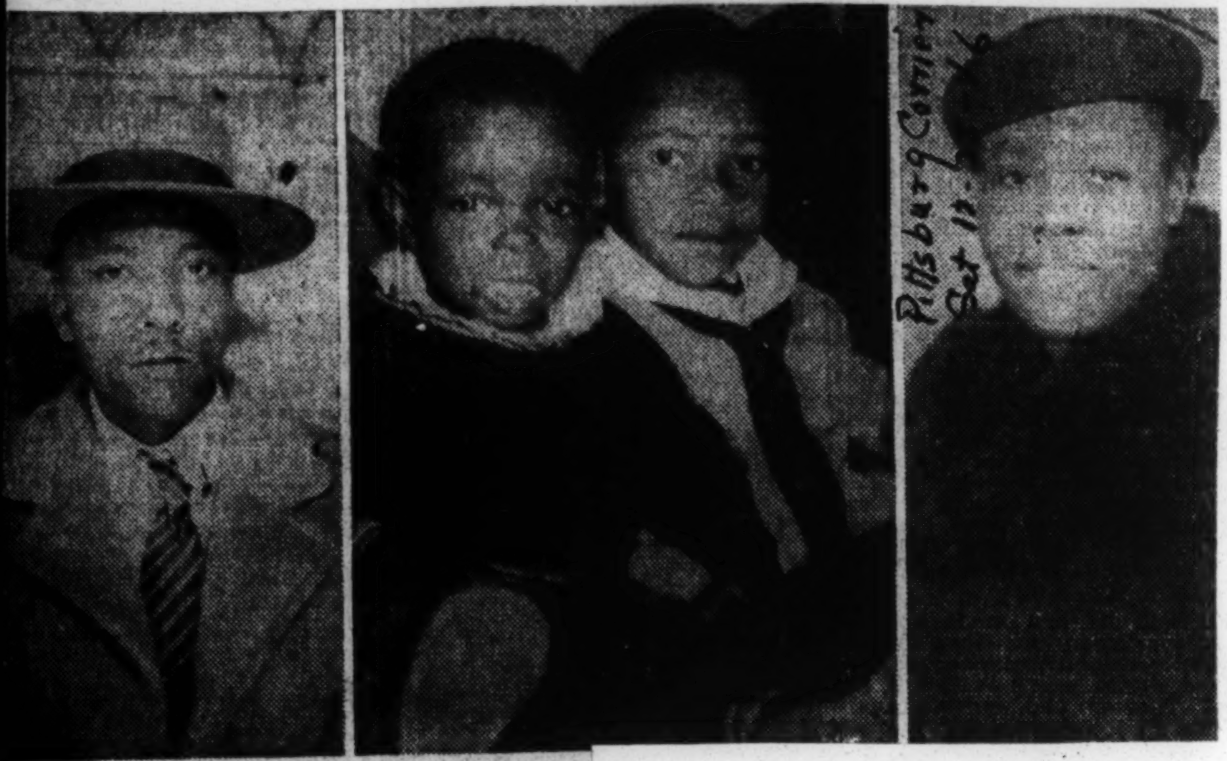
Bill Craig had been quarrelling with Walker before the killing, said Sheriff Black, who held the white man in Barnwell, the county seat, on a murder charge. No charges, were filed against John Craig, nor against Barney Govens and Richard McCurley, the other two whites.

X used

James Walker

(1) Included in 1946 rept

7464



Pittsburg Courier Sat 12-

LYNCH VICTIM AND FAMILY—Another lynching, reported to have occurred in November, was revealed this week. The victim was Dan Carter Sanders (left), the mob action taking place in Smithfield, N. C. Mrs. Sanders is shown at right, and their two sons, Dan Jr. and Robert Earl (center).—Rivera Photos.

Boy Led Mob

ANOTHER LYNCHING REVEALED

Pittsburg Courier

By A. M. RIVERA Jr.
(Staff Correspondent)

SMITHFIELD, N. C. — A mob of white men armed with shotguns and led by a 16-year-old high school youth lynched an unarmed 27-year-

Sat 12-28-46

old veteran and father of two children ten miles west of here for allegedly stealing some hound dogs.

Unlike the usual Southern pattern, these insolent murderers reported their crime to the sheriff and have been absolved of all blame by the Grand Jury's refusal to return a true bill necessary to bring them to trial.

The lynching took place on the afternoon of Nov. 18 near a section of Johnson County, known as Cleveland Township, shortly after Dan Carter Sanders, a lumber yard worker, and a companion, still unknown, allegedly stole four hound dogs from the yard of Bobby Johnson.

According to the testimony given at the Coroner's inquest and again at the investigation of the Grand Jury, Bobby Johnson, returning from school, saw the two men with the dogs and ran home to tell his father that he just saw two n—s with their dogs.

Pittsburg Courier

MOB FORMED

According to their own testimony an armed mob of two carloads formed and gave chase. When the deceased and his companion discovered that they were being pursued, they are said to have released the dogs and abandoned the road for a path through the thicket, each going in different directions, the dogs in the meantime returned home.

Attempting to cross an open field, Sanders was sighted by the mob. It was reported that the older men held their fire and gave the honor of killing Sanders to the youngest among them who was Bobby Johnson, age 16. Bobby's charge found its mark and the veteran of three years' service fell mortally wounded.

LEFT TO DIE Sat 12-28-46

The investigation revealed that while Sanders writhed in pain down on his hands and knees, the mob questioned him about the identity of his companion then left him in the field to die.

The men reported the incident to a deputy sheriff who told Sanders' widow to send an undertaker out to Cleveland Township to get her husband who had been shot.

Solicitor W. Jack Hooks of the Fourth Judicial District, made the presentment to the Grand Jury, which found insufficient evidence to return a true bill.

Atty. C. J. Gates, prominent North Carolina barrister, has been retained by interested citizens to attempt to reopen the case.

Sanders is survived by his widow, Mrs. Alzora Sanders, and two sons, Dan Carter Jr., 4, and Robert Earl, 2.

7442

"Officers" Lead NC Lynch Posse

Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Wilson, N. C.—An armed posse of 20 or 25 men, led by supposed ABC (alcohol beverage control) officers, hunted down and shot to death J. C. Farmer, 20-year-old farmhand who lived with his parents on the Thad Sharpe Plantation, close to Bailey, a small town near here, last Saturday after a fracas between the youth and a constable.

34a sat.

The trouble began when Farmer, with two friends, a boy and a girl, were engaged in play while awaiting a bus at a small stop near Wilson. Constable Bissette, who drove by, ordered Farmer into his car.

When the youth replied that he had "done nothing," the officer struck him with a blackjack and drew his gun. Again ordered into the car, a scuffle ensued, in which the veteran seized the weapon and shot Bissette through the hand. Farmer then fled. 8-24-46

A mob was formed and between 20 and 25 armed white men in seven or eight cars began a hunt for the youth. They ambushed him close to his home and killed him while his mother, Mrs. Mattie Farmer, looked on from her porch about 100 yards away.

When she reached the side of her dying son and exclaimed, "You've killed him," one lyncher told her: "He ought to be killed. I'd kill him myself."

Mrs. Farmer said that although the ex-GI still had the constable's gun, he did not attempt to use it when he was surprised by the mob and shot from ambush. No inquest was held.

8-24-46 sat.

N.C.

4 White Men Denied Bond in Death of Carolinian

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 9-7-46

CONCORD, N.C.—Four white men taken into custody in connection with the fatal burning of Isaac Glover, 65, on Aug. 13, are being held without bond in Mecklenburg County jail.

34a

Then men, Wiley B. Furr, 49, his son, Edward Furr, 20; William A. Cook, 20, and Lewis Furr, no relation to the other Furrs, were arrested after witnesses said they saw them near the house before the fire.

Death Statement

Isaac Glover who was removed from his blazing house on Young St. by firemen, reportedly said, "They set my house on fire," shortly before he succumbed at Cabarus Hospital.

Firemen said that the house in which Glover lived by himself was completely destroyed.

Harold Wilkinson, white, who also was implicated in the incident, was released by local police and last week was sentenced to four years and five months in central prison on other charges.

3 Admit Involvement

Cook, Edward Furr and Lewis Furr allegedly signed statements, in the presence of police, accusing each other of being in the house at the time of the fire. None of the declarations placed Wiley Furr in the house prior to the blaze.

Although the men were held

no formal charges were made against them until a Cabarrus County Coroner's jury ordered them held.

in jail during the investigation,

N. C. White Men Imprisoned for Life in Death of Man, 65

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

CONCORD, N.C. — (ANP)— Pleading guilty to the charge of locking up Isaac Glover, 65, and setting fire to his house, two white men faced life imprisonment and two others were given from 8 to 12 years as accessories to the crime. Sat. 10-26-46

34a

Glover was rescued from the blazing house by neighbors, but died shortly afterwards in a hospital. Police said the motive for the crime was robbery.

J.C. Farmer
included in
1946 report

7443

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
Aug. 26, 1946

Governor Asked Barnwell Shooting Again to Investigate

Columbia, Aug. 24.—(AP): James M. Hinton, president of the South Carolina conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, addressed a second urgent plea to Governor Williams Saturday to conduct a "thorough and impartial investigation" into the fatal shooting of James Walker, negro, at Elko in Barnwell county August 12.

Stating that the national office of the N. A. A. C. P. had asked for a report on the shooting, with which a white man has been charged, Hinton wrote the governor that the state conference of the N.A.A.C.P. was making an investigation which it intended to "back to the limit".

Calling the shooting a "wanton murder that borders on a lynching", Hinton asserted that facts gathered by the N.A.A.C.P. in the case differed "greatly" from those given by Sheriff Jeff Black, of Barnwell county.

Black said previously that witnesses told him the shooting occurred after Walker threatened William Craig, white farmer, and others in a store at Elko and then went to his father's house for a gun, threatening to return and shoot them.

Craig was charged with murder and later released on a $2,500 bond, but a coroner's jury found "justifiable homicide" after hearing the case, which now is scheduled to go before the county grand jury.

Hinton said in his letter to the governor that Walker was shot in the back as he sat on the porch of his father's home eating a piece of chicken.

Another letter addressed earlier this week by James McCray, president of the State Progressive (negro) Democratic party, to U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark requesting federal investigation of the shooting, alleged that there was "indisputable proof that Walker had no gun; that there was no kind of gun on the premises . . ."

Neither the governor nor his secretary could be reached for a statement in connection with the letter which Hinton said was mailed to him today.

Jury Indicts S. C. Lynchers

The Argus
St. Louis, Mo. Fri. 9-27-46

BARNWELL, S. C. (ANP)—A murder indictment against William Craig, white farmer charged with firing the shots which executed James Walker, Jr., near Elko, S.C., Aug. 12 in a mob action, was returned by the Barnwell county Grand Jury here Monday night.

A coroner's jury exonerated Craig at Elko on Aug. 19 but the grand jury ordered him bound over to the February term of general sessions court. Craig has been under liberty of a $2,500 bond since his arrest by Sheriff Jeff Black.

Walker was shot in the back standing on his father's porch whom he had arrived to visit less than an hour before. Craig claimed he shot when Walker stepped from the porch with a shotgun. Witnesses, however, testified the dead man had no weapon and that none was at the Walker home.

Negro Editor Asks Inquiry

Orlando, Fla., Morning Sentinel
Aug. 22, 1946

COLUMBIA, S. C. [UP] John McCray, Negro editor of a Columbia newspaper, yesterday called on U. S. Atty. Gen. Tom C. Clark to investigate the shooting of a Negro by a white man last week at Elko, S. C.

McCray wrote Clark what he called an appeal for "justice" after a coroner's jury had ruled that James Walker Jr., 32-year-old Negro, had been shot in self defense by William Craig.

The Negro newspaperman, claiming to be a witness of the shooting, said he had "indisputable proof" that the Negro was unarmed. He told the U. S. Attorney General that Sheriff Jeff Black, of Barnwell, "admits the victim was shot in the back."

Black said Walker was shot by Craig following an argument in which the Negro had threatened to kill Craig and his brother, John.

The two Craigs and a companion later went to Walker's home and the shooting followed.

The sheriff said the Negro was struck by a single bullet, and that he was armed. McCray, who said he was watching from a nearby railroad track, said there was "a hail of bullets."

Craig was liberated under $2,500 bond on a murder charge awaiting action of the Barnwell County Grand Jury next month.

McCray told Clark that he had asked South Carolina Gov. Ransome J. Williams to investigate, but had received "no acknowledgement and we expect none now." He said that "the pattern is plain, clear and typical. Unless there is some intervention and interest, Craig will be acquitted by a jury."

Federal Investigation Asked in Shooting Of Negro in Elko

The News and Courier
Charleston, S.C.
Wed. 8-21-46

Columbia, Aug. 20.—(AP): President John H. McCray of the South Carolina Progressive (negro) Democratic party wrote U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark today requesting a federal investigation of the fatal shooting of a negro in Barnwell county August 12.

Should the investigation show the case to be "within the scope of federal laws," McCray asked Clark to "help effect justice". He said "We have presented this case to our governor, the Hon. Ransome J. Williams" but that "we have had no acknowledgment. . ."

McCray said in his letter that William (Bill) Craig, a white man whom Sheriff Jeff Black of Barnwell arrested in connection with the shooting, was "vindicated" yesterday by a coroner's jury. (Craig was charged with murder, Black said last week, but was free under a $2,500 bond).

"Our investigation of the incident," McCray wrote, "and the sworn to statements of two negro witnesses to the slaying lead us to believe" that the negro, James Walker, Jr., was shot "through the back while he sat innocently chatting with a relative on the front porch" of his father's house.

He believed, he added, that "six or seven other white men" in addition to Craig were involved.

Sheriff Black reported that witnesses told him Walker threatened Craig and others and then went to his father's house for a gun but McCray's letter to Clark said "There is indisputable proof that Walker had no gun; that there was no kind of gun on the premises. . .

"The pattern is plain, clear, but typical. Craig, unless there is some intervention and interest, will be also acquitted by the Barnwell county grand jury."

Governor Williams, when asked about the letter McCray said he wrote him concerning the matter said it had not yet been brought to his attention. He had several days mail stacked on his desk, however.

White Man Is Held In Murder of Negro

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Barnwell, S. C., Aug. 16 (U.P.)—James Walker, Negro, was shot and killed at Elko, S. C., last Monday, and Bill Craig, a white man, was released on $2,000 bond after being held here on murder charges, Sheriff Jeff Black revealed today. Sat. 8-17-46

The sheriff said Walker was shot in the yard of his home, after an argument with Craig, his brother, John, and two other men.

Black said the Negro had a gun, "but I do not know if the Negro fired any shots. Only one bullet struck him and he was killed instantly."

Coroner Finds Shooting In Elko Justifiable

The News and Courier
Charleston, S.C. Wed. 8-21-46

Elko, Aug. 20. (U.P.)—The killing of James Walker, Jr., South Carolina negro who was shot by a white farmer, was justifiable homicide, a coroner's report said today.

Walker, who was visiting relatives near Elko was killed by William Craig, who admitted the slaying after explaining that Walker had threatened his life earlier.

A Columbia negro newspaper editor said that he was standing on a railroad track 150 yards from the scene when he heard shots ring out, followed, he said, by abusive language. He reported that Walker was sitting on a porch railing and toppled into the yard dead.

Police reports said Walker was in the yard when the shooting occurred. Wed. 8-21-46

Sheriff Jeff Black freed Craig under a $2,500 bond. His case will go before a grand jury in September.

Witnesses appeared at the coroner's hearing who testified that the negro had threatened to kill Craig.

Precedent Broken As Dixie Jurors Indict Lyncher

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 9-28-46

BARNWELL, S. C.—(ANP)—Marking the first move toward justice in more than a score of lynchings in the past few months, the grand jury here last week indicted William Craig for the murder of James Walker Jr., in a mob ambush at Elko, Aug. 12.

Previously, an Elko Coroner's jury exonerated Craig, who allegedly shot Walker in the back as he stood on the porch of his parents' home. Craig, it was charged, fired the murder weapon from a cane patch near the house. He has been free on a $2,500 bond since his arrest by Sheriff Jeff Black.

Despite the fact that Craig was cleared by the coroner's jury, the Barnwell county grand jury ordered him bound over to the February term of General Sessions Court.

At Columbia, newspaper editor John H. McCray, who uncovered the lynching said the jury action was gratifying, crediting it to statewide demands for action. McCray also pointed out the fact that Gov. Ransome J. Williams has taken no interest in the case, despite petitions sent him by several organizations.

During the past week, McCray continued, several donations have reached his office to be used in bringing the killer to justice.

used.

7444

2 Vets Lynched In Texas City

The Afro-American

34a

Baltimore, Md. Sat.

NEW YORK—The lynch terror gripping the South was intensified on Aug. 22 when two veterans were lynched in Marshall, Tex. They were Richard F. Gordon, 31, and Alonza Brooks, 25. 8-31-46

Although Texas police have termed the lynchings isolated murders, colored residents of Marshall live under the pall of lynch law, according to NAACP workers who are continuing their investigation in spite of the local police's lack of co-operation.

Both veterans, according to the police, met death at the hands of "unknown persons," Gordon at the hands of a hit-and-run driver.

Dragged Through Streets

However, one person who saw his body lying on the road before it was taken to the morgue stated that his throat had been slashed from ear to ear, undoubtedly by a knife, and that his head and body were horribly cut and bruised. The Afro-American

In addition he said that prints on the road leading to where the veteran lay showed evidence that he had been dragged through the streets tied to the rear of an automobile. Baltimore, Md.

Fired, Rehired, Slain

Residents in the vicinity said they were awakened early by two carloads of white men, who were making a great deal of noise and who remained on the scene until the police arrived, leading to the belief that the lynchers and police were in a conspiracy together. Sat. 8-31-46

Several days before his death, Gordon had been questioned by the police on a charge of stealing his wealthy white employer's whiskey. Although he had no knowledge of the theft, and vehemently told the police so, he was fired.

Two days later, he was rehired by his former employer and was killed at dawn the next morning.

2nd Beaten, Strangled

There is even more mystery about the death of Brooks, who was found dead in the woods near Marshall, three days after he had left home in his car to visit friends after driving his family to church.

He had no known enemies, yet his autopsy revealed death from blows on the nape of his neck and strangling. The motive was obviously not robbery, as his wallet and wrist watch were still on his person when his body was discovered.

Meanwhile, residents of Marshal are questioning the possibility of a connection between the deaths of these vets and responsibility for the presence of MP's at the polling places in Marshall during the July 27 primary.

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34d(1)(a) 1946

Georgia

7286

Harrison Must be Made To Talk

If ever third degree methods were justified, they should be used to make J. Loy Harrison talk. Harrison was witness to Georgia's horrible lynching of two couples. The 20 or more members of the lynch mob were unmasked. Undoubtedly, they were residents of the area around Monroe. As widely known as Harrison is, it is hardly likely that he could not recognize at least one person in the mob.

34d(1)(a)

If one of the Negro women knew some of the men and called out the name of one, surely Harrison was acquainted with the lyncher, too. But if he did not know the man, he at least should be able to tell the officers what name it was that the woman victim cried out. If Harrison is not deaf, he should be made to tell what he knows. If he has conveniently forgotten in order to sav his own life, the FBI can assure him of a bodyguard all times for protection until the lynchers are caught.

Negroes in Kansas City who have failed to cooperate with police by giving information about crimes they see committed now can see how harmful their silence can be. Without witnesses and evidence, the police, prosecutor and the courts are helpless. The mob in Georgia will be

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THE DRAGONS IN GEORGIA

~~The Chronicle Detroit Mich.~~ Sat. 8-3-46

Detroit Mich.

Last week in these columns we predicted trouble ahead in Georgia and warned that the future of the Klan there was bright. Hardly had our newspaper hit the streets when reports filtered in from the Georgia back country telling of the wanton murder of four Negroes by a mob of race-crazed whites. Still another news dispatch told of the murder of a fifth Negro in Butler, Georgia, a veteran, who strangely enough was the only Negro to cast a vote in that area. The shocking facts which are being uncovered, however, are worse than anything we believed possible.

34d(1)(a)

We applaud the pronouncements of Governor Arnall and the vigorous protests of outraged white Southern liberals over this bloody affair. Unfortunately liberal language alone cannot stem the tide of racism which is on the march in Georgia and other Southern states today. The victories of Bilbo and Talmadge have opened the floodgates and a new wave of racial violence seems to be rolling across the countryside. Those of us who have looked forward to a new liberal South cannot ignore the ugly facts which spell terror and murder for our citizens whose sole offense rests on the accident of color.

Michigan Chronicle

No sane American who loves his country and wants to make democracy work can afford to turn his eyes away from the ghastly picture of cruel and wanton lynching of men and women. Begging for mercy and crying out in despair, these women and their husbands were sacrificed deliberately in cold blood on the altar of white supremacy. Such savagery rivals the most heinous crimes of the Nazi Reich. A million Negroes in the state of Georgia today are terrified by the monstrous blood-letting ceremony.

Few white men except the oppressed Jews of Europe know what it is to walk in eternal fear. No Negro in the Southern hinterland knows by day or night what hour he might be suddenly struck down for no reason that he can fathom. Two of the women and one of the men lynched last week near Monroe, Georgia, were not even accused of any crime, not even the "crime" of "disrespect" to the white masters who overlord them. Once struck down, they were robbed of the dying satisfaction that their murderers would be brought to the bar of justice. They could not even be sure that the story of their murder would ever be known. Indeed, the world heard of it only because of a "leak" 24 hours after they had been sacrificed.

We have stated before and we state it again, the racist poison which leads to mob murder and lynching is as real a threat to our country as Hitler and Tojo ever dared to be. If this rampant racism is not stopped our country is going to be torn asunder in bloody conflict and it will involve not only Negroes but all the racial and religious minorities which make up the nation. The lynchings in Georgia last week may become just a prelude to widespread violence which will not stop at any state boundary unless direct action is taken now. Those who think it cannot happen at this advanced state of our national culture are underestimating the power of hatred. Hitler came to power over a people who prided themselves on their high intellectual and cultural advancement. Hitler stirred the passions of the mobs and promoted their prejudices and he became irresistible while the world laughed.

The lynchings last week, therefore, are not just a Georgia affair. They are the concern of the nation at large and the national government must do something about it. Appeals are going to the President and to the Departmentof Justice urging immediate Federal intervention. The lynchers must be found and prosecuted. Any duplicity and hedging over this issue will play into the hands of the dragons of Georgia who, having tasted blood, may hunger for more. The welfare of the nation is at stake and there is no substitute for positive action.

THE GEORGIA LYNCHING

Plaindealer

Cleveland Ohio

The wholesale murder and lynching of four Negroes in
Georgia last week was a down right shame and disgrace
n the United States government. . . . The government can
ot remain silent and let this awful crime against law and
der go un-challenged. The murder was so un-American
ntil even the Chief of Police of Monroe, Ga., stated to
wspapermen that there ought to be a Federal Lynch Law.

The hour has come that our Government must face the
cts. . . . President Truman and his administration are up
ainst a proposition of allowing facism and nazism con-
er this country and destroy the American way of life or
nging and end to this vicious enemy. Without a doubt,
south is still fighting the civil war and the Negroes and minority groups are getting the worse end of the deal. If the facist groups are allowed to continue, all will be lost in this country. Hitler took of the reign of Germany by just such movements as the Klans and lynch mobs of the south are promoting today. Negroes have a great deal to lose, but the white man has much more to lose than Negroes. If they are interested in the fulture welfare of this great commonwealth, some action must be taken at once to stop the facist leaders who are destined to rule and ruin.

American is a great country . . . we want it to continue to be great . . . a lot of bloodshed, work and sacrifice helped to make it great. Surely after building the greatest nation among civilized people, our Government is not going to let a gang of outlaws, rustlers upon human life and hooded cowards take over and destroy the works of our fathers.

Now is the time to bring an end to this terrorism, lynching, mob violence and nazi demonstrations in the south. Our Government has the power and the equipment to do so . . . Let our Government speak and act. 8-2-46

Walter White

People, Politics And Places

Defender Chicago, Ill

34(02)

Sat. 8-17-46

Nation In Fear

THOMAS WOLFE in his last novel described Nazi Germany of the middle 30's as a nation "infested with the contagion of an ever-present fear" suffering from "a plague of the spirit— invisible but as unmistakable as death." How tragically applicable to the United States of the middle 40's the late great North Carolinan's gloomy and prophetic phrases are with its current wave of racial and religious barbarities, its international fears and blunderings, its overall pall of insecurity. And how equally applicable to America today is the cynical remark that "the only thing we ever learn from history is that we never learn anything from history."

The incredible bestiality of the Isaac Woodard case and the Georgia and Mississippi lynchings and the dangerous lunacies of the Ku Klux Klan are significant not only in themselves but even more as substantiation of Hegel's statement that "peoples and government have never learned anything from history, or acted on principles deductible from it." Ephemeral shock followed so instantly by complacent acceptance of the fact that nothing can be done about such crimes which most Americans, including a lot of Negro Americans, experience is even unhealthier than the crimes themselves. Part of this tendency is due, of course, to the increasing frequency of episodes in a rising tide of violence which may inundate America. And destroy it.

Queer, Hopeful Portents

BUT THERE are some queer—and horribly hopeful—portents. First there is the reaction to the lynching of Mrs. Roger Malcolm and Mrs. George Dorsey in Georgia. If the mob—six of whose members the NAACP has named to the FBI and GBI—had been content to kill Malcolm only who had cut a white man for fooling around with his wife or even if they killed Dorsey too there might have been and probably would have caused little comment. It was a fatal mistake for either Mrs. Dorsey or Mrs. Malcolm, whichever it was who blurted out in terror at the impending murder of her husband, the name of the mobster she recognized. It cost her her life. But in giving her own life she may have blasted America into doing something about lynching. **Maybe.** Maybe not. I've heard this so often before I don't know.

And take that startling riot at Athens, Tenn., so different from any other riot in a long time, when returned GIs fought back against the viciousness of a corrupt, notorious political machine grown arrogant and drunk on unchallenged power over a long period. Some of my friends have challenged or scoffed at my hope that the Southern white soldiers I talked with in North Africa and Europe and the Pacific who had changed their attitudes towards Negroes would continue to feel that way. Undoubtedly some have already retreated to acceptance of the local mores and prejudices. But in Athens the shooting started when a Negro was shot in the back. And when the GIs won control of the town they issued permits to carry arms to 500 citizens to maintain order and repel a rumored counterattack by Sheriff Mansfield and others of the old gang. It was very significant that the despatches added that arms permits issued included "some Negroes."

Hard To Criticize

IT IS HARD to express criticism of men who remembered in the Tennessee of Crump and McKellar and Columbia the high ideals they were told they fought for in the late war—especially the one about freedom for all men. But I devoutly wish that it was violence which expressed their bitterness against political corruption. For violence breeds violence, hate breeds hate. What veterans at Athens fought for was civic decency. Their success may inspire others to use violence to attain civic indecency, Ku Kluxism, putting Negroes "in their place."

"Infested with the contagion of an ever-present fear." That is America today. The one hopeful note is to be found in the stand of men like Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia and an aroused and much more articulate opposition to mob violence on the part of labor, church and similar organizations to the danger these outbreaks represent to America as a whole. Only big business and their stooges in Congress are silent.

W. E. B. DuBois

Defender

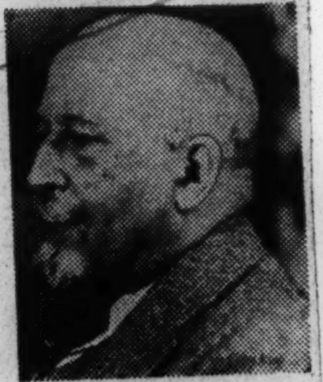
Plain Speaking

Chicago, Ill.

34(10)

Sat. 8-17-46

DURING THE recent meeting of the great powers in Paris, Mr. James F. Byrnes our militant Secretary of State, spoke plainly to the representative of Bulgaria. He stressed the great importance attached by the United States for the maintenance of civil rights for all the population, adding that the United States could not understand or approve any system of government where the Opposition is permitted to have no press, where political arrests are continually taking place and where there is no possibility for the people freely to express their will in elections."



In current dialect "ain't that somethin'." It reminds me of an editorial which I wrote in the "Crisis," 27 years ago, in October, 1919. May I quote those words:

"You have, perhaps, noticed our double-page advertisement in the Congressional Record, due to the kindness of our good friend James Francis Byrnes, of South Carolina. Congressman Byrnes is from the Second District and a confrere of the late Congressman James W. Ragsdale, who died suddenly during the Washington riots.

Byrnes Electoral 'Majority'

"THE CONGRESSIONAL Districts of these two gentlemen have about 400,000 inhabitants and probably 80,000 of these are males of voting age, the majority being Negroes. Mr. Byrnes was elected to Congress by a vote of 7,681 ballots out of a total of 7,801 ballots cast.

"In the Second District of New York it took, the same year, 46,141 votes to make an election and 24,064 of these to elect a Congressman; but all this is not necessary in South Carolina.

"Yet Mr. Byrnes, representing without any legal authority the suppressed votes of 12,000 white men and 20,000 blacks, stands in Congress and talks just as loud—indeed, considerably louder—than Mr. Caldwell of New York.

"Mr. Byrnes is alarmed, and so are we. He is alarmed over us and we over him. He accuses 'The Crisis' and other Negro journals of causing not only the Washington and Chicago riots, but the whole unrest and dissatisfaction in the Negro race. We accuse Mr. Byrnes, and his kind, of being primarily the ones who not only precipitated the riots in Washington, Chicago, Atlanta, Houston, Longview and East St. Louis, but also of encouraging for 50 years the lynching of 4,000 Negroes, the disfranchisement of a million and a half voters, the enforced ignorance of three million human beings and the theft of hundreds of millions of dollars in wages, but particularly the theft of the highest privilege of a free man—our vote and our self-respect."

Still True Today

WHAT WAS written a quarter of a century ago is still true today. Neither South Carolina nor Mr. Byrnes can represent democracy before the world. Least of all have they any right to point the finger of criticism at Russia. Let us not forget that Monroe, Ga., where the recent lynchings took place, is half way between Atlanta and the South Carolina line and in the same cultural orbit. Here was a white planter, Harrison, who had secured the services of a field hand by going his bail, a species of crime-servitude common in this part of the South. Harrison knows the neighbors who perpetrated this crime and is keeping his mouth shut in self-defense and in loyalty to the sort of democracy which our Secretary of State represents.

Lynching, which bids fair to ~~be one~~ of the forgotten American pastimes, has taken an upward trend, and the resultant hysterical uproar has been something remarkable to see and hear, attesting as it does to the vigilance of the libertarian forces in this country.

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THE FACT that the people of intelligence and authority in the South are condemning the resurgence of mob murder as vigorously as those in other parts of the country is a most significant development. Time was when they spoke scarcely above a whisper. Now they roar out unafraid. This shows that much progress can be and is being made. When there were 200 or more lynchings a year, there was not nearly as much indignation aroused as a few isolated mob murders now. The uproar should continue until lynching becomes as dead as the dodo.

* * *

It is a healthy sign that the oposition to lynching is developing so strongly in the very areas where it most frequently occurs. If the decent people can get the existing laws enforced there, the pressure for Federal action (which seems futile on the record) will end.

* * *

IT IS AMUSING in a grim sort of way that men like Bilbo, Rankin, Talmadge and their ilk should talk so much about white supremacy. Are they not protesting too much? If they and their followers are in truth superior, what have they to fear? Why proscribe the Negro if he is inferior? What has a superior person to fear from an inferior person? Could it be that the advocates and champions of white supremacy do not believe in their hearts that they are superior by virtue of their lack of deep skin pigmentation?

34d (1) (a) 1946 Georgia

7285

WE CAN HELP

Defender Chicago, Ill.

In the past few weeks two groups spearheaded by Walter White of the NAACP and Paul Robeson of the American Crusade to End Lynching have seen the President of the United States pleading for executive action to stop these barbarious atrocities.

As a result, it is rumored Mr. Truman will appoint a fact finding Commission in the near future to study means of ending this evil.

34d (1)(a)

Effectiveness of the agency will be determined of course by the people who compose it. If they are courageous and sincere they may bring to light information now buried in the files of an apparently unconcerned Federal Bureau of Investigation who have not even attempted to prosecute any of the recent lynch mobsters though they are said to know who they are. If members of the Commission follow the pattern of a number of the President's appointments they could be used as a whitewash to show that the executive branch of the government is powerless in this regard. Sat. 10-5-46

At best the Commission can only be an aid. It cannot be a cure. Congress must pass stringent anti-lynch legislation before the Federal Government can throw the full weight of its law enforcement agencies into the battle to stop these murders.

And in this the Negro people can help themselves. In the next two months we will have the opportunity to help elect a new Congress, which if properly selected will pass anti-lynch laws that even the most rabid race hater will dare not break.

If we are to have that kind of Congress we must get out and fight for it. We must elect representatives in November who will not sell us down the river when this issue comes up in the 80th Congress. This means forgetting party lines—of putting behind us old conceptions that the Republican Party is the party of Lincoln—or that the Democrats will follow the principles of Roosevelt.

We have had the experience of the 79th Congress and have seen how an unholy alliance of Northern Republicans and Southern Democrats cuts across party lines to protect the interests of reaction.

Many of these people we helped to elect for we felt they would follow a Lincolnian policy. Now we know they won't. In the coming election, let's test each and every candidate. If they are candidates for the Senate be certain they will support cloture and not practice the trick used consistently by Senator Brooks of Illinois of absenting himself from the Senate floor each time this isuse comes up for vote. If they are candidates for the House of Representatives be certain they pledge their support.

Don't take the word of ward healers and petty politicians. Test these aspirants yourself.

This is our battle and we must not shirk responsibility. Every time a Negro is lynched we must remember the whole race is being lynched. So let's fight with every ounce of our intelligence and strength.

In pointing out a source of our power we do not want to minimize the necessity of President Truman immediately taking the initiative—even within the existing legal framework—for he is the nation's leader and lynching is an evil which brings moral disgrace upon the entire country.

It is his duty to interpret to Americans their responsibility to the minority. It is his obligation to follow the dictates of a moral order higher than even the law of the land and take positive action to stamp out this disgrace.

Lynching must go and no right thinking American can rest easily until it does.

A WORD OF PRAISE

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

In our bitterness over last week's brutal murder of two Negro men and women in a little town of Georgia it is well that we remember the courageous battle Gov. Ellis Arnall has waged against almost unsurmountable odds during the past four years, and in commending him, take hope that the people of Georgia are not completely lost in the struggle toward progress.

34d (1)(a)

During this time Governor Arnall has worked ceaselessly to dig his state out of the mire of ignorance, poverty and prejudice which generations of conditioning in the concept of a slave economy have anchored it.

Though it may look as if his efforts have been in vain, if we analyze the record close enough we will see that this is not entirely true. Sat. 8-3-46

He has gotten Negroes and whites to cooperate together in certain sections of the state for their common good. And he has been able to get some liberal legislation passed which has benefited all sections of Georgia.

And what is most important the majority of Georgians were willing to follow his liberal leadership for another four years as was evidenced by the plurality his candidate for Governor, James Carmichael received in the recent Democratic primary.

Unfortunately, four years have not been enough to overcome a century of stagnation. Thus a trick count voting system gave the demagogue Talmadge the governorship nomination even though he was repudiated at the polls. And now the gains which Arnall laboriously made are threatened with destruction overnight.

The Arnalls of the South need help. Unless our Federal government will pass anti-lynch legislation and other federal measures designed to assist in complete economic recovery of Dixie, the work of these liberals will be wasted while the South will revert to the savage rules of human relations to which it has become accustomed.

S. I. Hayakawa

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

Incident On Southside

34d (1)(a)

SOME YEARS ago I was discussing with a stranger, a white person, racial disturbances in our cities. He agreed that they were bad, but he said, somewhat to my surprise, that he had taken part in one in Chicago. "Wait till I tell you what happened," he said, "and you'll see I was justified." Sat. 8-3-46

He told me that once he was driving his mother home through the Southside. On that particular evening Negroes were in the streets joyously celebrating one of Joe Louis' victories. He said that both he and his mother were sympathetically watching the celebration as they drove slowly through the crowded streets. Then something happened.

Some Negro, intentionally or unintentionally, threw a pop-bottle, which flew through the open car window, striking, although not injuring, the mother. My new acquaintance said that this "made him see red." He hastily drove his mother home and returned alone to the Negro district.

"I've got no prejudices," he said as he described the incident. "But you can't let anyone do a thing like that to your mother. I got back into the Negro district as quick as I could. And I didn't go home until I had cornered and beaten the hell out of four Negroes. I've got nothing against Negroes, you understand, but you can't let them throw pop-bottles at your mother!"

Unexpected Question

AS HE finished his story, he had a complacent expression on his face. He obviously expected me to admire his fine attitude towards his mother.

Well, you can't resist an opening like that—at least I can't. So I decided to let him have it.

"Yes, sir," I said. "If that had happened to my mother, I would have felt just the way you did. Of course a man's got to defend his mother!"

He smiled at what he thought was his victory in the argument. Then I added casually, "Did you get him?"

He looked puzzled. "Get who?" he asked.

"The guy that threw the pop-bottle," I said.

His smile disappeared. For almost a minute there was complete silence while the question slowly sank into his dim brain. He started once or twice to say something, his face twisted in thought. Finally, he said, "Y'know, I never thought of that."

Semantic Indexing

I AM reminded of this incident today because I have just heard about the murder of four Negroes in Monroe, Ga. If there are Negroes as stupid as the white person I have just described—and I have heard that there are—they will resent not simply the white Georgians who committed the murders, but the entire white race.

It is in moments of passionate indignation, such as justifiably moves the Negro community now, that one needs most desperately the curious little semantic rule known as "indexing," which means simply adding little numbers to the words you use to avoid making a damn fool of yourself: white person 1, white person 2, white person 3; Negro 1, Negro 2, Negro 3. If Negro 1 throws a pop-bottle at your mother, what good does it do to beat up Negroes 2, 3, and 4? If white persons 3, 4, and 5 perpetrate a lynching, why take it out on white persons 6, 7, and 8? Japanese 1, 2, 3, and 4 attack Pearl Harbor; so California puts Japanese 5, 6, and 7, who happen to be loyal Americans, into concentration camps. The core of prejudice is failure in indexing.

If you believe that the way to fight prejudice is with more prejudice, then by all means don't other leg.

bother with indexing. It's all right if your theory

of the way to cure a broken leg is to break the

34d(1)(b) 1946

General

7289

Don't Let Congress Forget

the Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

AFRO reporters covering the reign of terror which has held a large part of Dixie in its grip for several weeks have pointed out that most of the South's venom is directed against men who have served in the armed forces of the U.S.

They point to the bitter irony of a situation in which men who risked life and limb that so-called democracy can prevail here are singled out as the objects of mob violence. The blood which some of them spilled on the battle field was not enough to guarantee the fundamental liberties of which they heard so much. Sat. 8-31-46

Events of the past few weeks demonstrate conclusively that without Federal intervention, the lives of those who dwell in the South are not safe. The doctrine of States' Rights is being knocked into a cocked hat with each outbreak.

Local law enforcement officials have not only shown themselves powerless, but in some instances these supposed guardians of law and order have been in the vanguard of the mobbists. When prisoners placed in jail for safekeeping are beaten and shot down like rats, it is apparent that protection, if it is provided, must come from the outside.

The next Congress should be more inclined toward passage of a Federal antilynching law than any of recent years. The Bilbos and the Talmadges by openly flouting the Constitution are making out a strong case for the opposition.

Trouble is, some people have short memories, so that it is necessary to keep reminding our representatives in Congress that we expect favorable action from them when they return. A vote on antilynching legislation, if taken now, would in all probability be largely affirmative.

By the time Congress reconvenes there is the possibility that enthusiasm in this direction may have subsided considerably. It is up to us, through individual and group action, to keep this enthusiasm alive until the lawmakers return to Capitol Hill.

Anti-Lynch Legislation

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Walter White, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, issued an emergency appeal this week to its one thousand chapters scattered throughout the nation together with more than 60 national organizations cooperating with the Association in the present lynch crisis. It is indicated that many influential organizations have already begun action to support the Association's drive on lynching and for a lynch bill.

Sat 8-31-46 Gen.

For a number of years, zealous southerners have insisted that a law against mob-violence was unnecessary, since the problem could and would be cured by the efforts of southern people themselves. We had hoped that such could and would be done. But the plain truth is, it has not been done. Lynchings and mob-violence continue and no one, not even the sheriff, seems to be able to do anything more than regret such a thing had to happen. But frankly, more than that needs to be done about a serious thing as mob-murder. Authorities, including the jailors, think and take too lighly, the handling of Negro suspects in the custody of law to curb the evil. Congress can and should pass such a law. And Negroes are not going to be deceived by the promises of politicians in Washington this time. They are going to expect, not only action but serious action, towards effectuating such a law in the approaching session of Congress. In this way, instead of Sheriffs and others who ought to know what is going on about them, registering regrets over such things, the entire community which permits such things to pay for these crimes.

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO STOP THESE MOBSTERS

~~Black Dispatch~~

(An Editorial)

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Here is your chance to help stop this reign of terror throughout the South. Southern mobsters have shot, maimed, burned and killed our fellow American citizens without cause and without regret. Federal and state investigators have not turned up one clue that would lead us to believe they are any closer to prosecuting these lynchers than they were from the very first. There are people who have seen these brutal murders, people who are willing to testify and give evidence that will convict the participants in these horrible crimes, but these people fear for their lives. They don't dare tell what they know and still keep on living in the South, because their lives would not be worth a plugged nickle. The NAACP is putting up a hard fight to uncover evidence that will convict these murderers.

Sat 8-31-46

The home office of the NAACP received a call from one of its on-the-spot investigators of the blow torch lynching of John Jones, Negro veteran at Minden, La., August 8. This investigator has found an eyewitness who can furnish evidence leading to positive identification of 14 members of the mob, three of them deputy sheriffs, who chopped off Jones' hands with a meat cleaver, burned him to a crisp with a blow torch, and shot and left for dead Jones' 13-year-old cousin who escaped and has been lost somewhere in Texas. This eyewitness is willing to go to New York and to testify. But he is a Negro with a family and dependents. He or his family will never be able to live in the South again if he tells what he knows. In every lynching since the end of the war there are eyewitnesses who would be willing to talk if they did not fear for the lives and their families and loved ones.

But it would be a different picture if these eyewitnesses could be taken out of the South along with their families and given protection in a more friendly atmosphere. These people would have to have a new start in life in new surroundings and this is not easy. They would have to have living accommodations. They would have to have employment, and this would cost money.

Now here is what you can do to stop this reign of terror. Call meetings and form clubs with the purpose of collecting donations to build up a fund to help these eyewitnesses who are willing to risk their lives and tell all they know. A man found who can give evidence against these lynchers should be taken to New York with his whole family and not have to fear for the necessities of life.

Every church in America should take one Sunday's donation and send to the aid of these families; every organization, be it fraternal, religious or otherwise, should work and contribute for this cause. Every teacher, every preacher, every doctor—every individual—should appoint himself a committee of one to do all he can to arouse enthusiasm in the drive to obtain this fund.

If these lynchings are to be stopped, it is going to take the earnest effort of citizens all over America, both white and black. Nothing but a hypocrite would sit back and bemoan the horrible thing that is happening in the South and then not be willing to give, in money, all he can spare to help win World War II which has shifted the battle ground to Southern America.

Sat 8-31-46

All money collected for the fund should be sent to Walter White, executive secretary, NAACP, 20 West 40th St., New York 18, N. Y.

7287

The South Opens Its Eyes

The Black-Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla. Sat 8-10-46

34R(1)(b)

Ten days have passed since the mass-murder of four egroes down in Georgia, yet up to this moment no one has een arrested on suspicion, or charged with crime. It does eem to the Black Dispatch that Edgar Hoover and his FBI ould take a leaf from the notebook of the British as they robe terrorism in Jerusalem.

When the King David hotel was bombed the British mmediately launched a "house-to-house" search of Tel Aviv. t the present moment they have suspected terrorists under rrest, and the British are going behind the iron curtain of he Jews to find evidence of guilt.

Not so down where civilization ends in Georgia. The FBI and the federal government have instituted a pink tea affair, where folk sit around and subdued voices talk about the breaking down of law and order. Apparently they are not aware that these mass murders are but a part of a general pattern of intimidation and horror with which invisible government seeks to throw panic and dread among Negro masses, just at the time organized labor enters the South and launches a campaign for higher wages.

Stupidity would reign supreme in an atmosphere where no one can see relationship between the numerous murders of Negro people down South during the current year and the activation of a conspiracy controlled by hidden influences seeking to disrupt general trends of the populace.

In January, four Negro veterans were killed in cold blood in Birmingham.

February 13, a returned Negro veteran, Isaac Woodard, three hours after leaving an army separation center, had his eyes savagely gouged out by a white policeman.

February 25, Columbia, Tennessee, whites invaded the Negro community and killed two Negroes following an altercation between a white storekeeper and a Negro woman, at which time a Negro youth sought to protect his mother.

July 17, in Taylor County, Georgia, Macio Snipes, Negro veteran, was dragged from his home and killed by four men. Snipes was the only Negro to vote in the county July 17.

And now comes the mass murder of Negroes near Monroe, Georgia, July 25, three of whom were charged with no crime other than that they were black. In the face of such a record the FBI and other law enforcement agencies seem unwilling to search for a major motive. It seems to the Black Dispatch that just a little sprinkle of common sense would cause simple-minded folk to realize that the frightful murders are the effect of a cause. The innocent blacks who have bitten the dust in the past six months down in Georgia have been blotted out on the altar of "white supremacy." They are victims of wrath that says Negroes shall not vote and participate in decent wage scales.

The law belatedly says Negroes may vote down in Dixie. There is only one way to prevent Negroes from casting legalized ballots, and that obvious method is through terrifying and spreading panic among the Negro population. This was the vicious technique of the reconstruction Ku Klux, and it is the only effective weapon of race prejudice now. The past week America observed the evil consequences of this horrifying practice when Tennessee sought to visit upon white people the same terrorism practiced upon the blacks.

The white deputies had already shot a Negro, but trouble did not break out in Athens, Tennessee, until white folk decided to club white folk at the polls. That is when civil war commenced, resulting in the complete uprooting of existing county government. There are a lot of folk who perhaps have not accurately charted what happened at Athens, Tennessee. On that miserable, but significant day, the South weighed its archaic system of disfranchisement in the balances and found it wanting. Dixie sees the handwriting on the wall at Athens. It knows now that the half century attempt to deny ballot rights to the blacks has now widened to engulf the whites.

We have an idea down at Athens that the vets, who had to blast out of their community life with leadened bullets the status quo, are talking about the right of everybody to vote, including the aged Negro who was shot. Reaction sought to terrorize the whites by first shooting the black man, but now that white and black blood has flowed in the gutters of Athens, we are sure vision comes to say that the interests of both white and black are identical and the same.

It is appaling to contemplate upon what will happen down in Dixie if there is continuance on the part of existing government to halt the extension of suffrage provileges and stymie effort of labor to raise the weekly stipend of the masses. Basicly this is what this whole issue of terrorism is about. Poor whites are just beginning to realize that disfranchisement is intended for them just as it is for the blacks, only administered in a more subtle form. This discovery was made at Athens. Revelation of this vicious conspiracy to defraud labor of its just rewards, irrespective of race, will be exposed as the CIO and the AFL attempt to constitutionally seize government through breaking down poll tax laws and registering both black and white workers.

The Negro is going to be unmercifully persecuted during the next few months as the Southern plantation owners seek to confuse basic issues down in Dixie. The old techniques surrounded a scheme to convince poor whites that they should utilize their time watching blacks. That did not pan out at Athens, and it is not going to have any substance in it any longer. It could be that poor whites below the Mason and Dixon line will have to start another civil war to emancipate themselves from a type of corrupt feudalism which finds expression in poll tax laws and tenancy. Southern poor whites now realize illiteracy, malnutrition and poor labor standards cannot be obliterated in an autocracy, and under a fascist system. These evils will be eliminated in a democratic atmosphere where all citizens have influence upon government.

Evidence Withheld

The Black-Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

At long last we are beginning to discover some of the previously withheld evidence in the Monroe (Ga.) lynchings not published in the daily press. We now know the "prosperous farmer," mentioned so many time in the daily press, who had charge of the four Negroes lynched, is a prosperous bootlegger down in Walton County, Georgia. Would it not have properly colored the thinking of the American populace, as to the integrity of this man, Loy Harrison, had it been known at the outset that Harrison was a notorious law violator in his community instead of being a "prosperous farmer"? Sat 8-10-46

34R(1)(b)

And now let us turn to the victims of the mob. It will be recalled back twenty-five years ago when hundreds of Negroes were annually lynched, it was charged Negroes were lynched because of their general tendency to rape white women. This false propaganda was distributed so generally over the nation that the Southern Sociological Congress, composed of liberal minded whites, issued a statement, deploring lynching, but interpolating into the same statement an admonition to Negroes that they should refrain from raping white women. It was only after the NAACP came on the scene and began to assemble factual data respecting lynching that Southern whites had to back away from this charge and admit that lynching is an evil part of a Southern conspiracy to intimidate and terrorize the rising spirit among Negroes to participate in constitutional government.

NAACP figures then showed, and continue to show, that only one-fourth of Negroes lynched, were actually charged with rape, but on the other hand, NAACP figures show that most lynchings result from such frivolous charges as "sassing a white man, being a witness, writing insulting notes, improper conduct, insisting on eating in a restaurant when denied service, threatening a man with a knife, trying to act like a white man, not knowing his place, being a strikebreaker, using insulting language, striking white man in quarrel, discussing a lynching, making boastful remarks, misleading a mob, vagrancy, slapping boy, jumping labor contract, insisting on voting, gambling, incendiarism, throwing stones, enticing servant away.

It can be readily seen that strenuous effort has been made down in Dixie by the upholders of lynch law to destroy the good name of the black man, and that at the root of mob murder is a pattern of terrorism seeking to halt Negroes from striking back at lawless invisible government that destroys helpless black womanhood and holds the black worker in economic slavery. The truth is, lynching has been instituted to prevent Negro men from striking back at white men who ravish black women with their wanton bestial lust.

Take, for instance, the Monroe, Georgia, lynching. Why is it that no daily publication in the South has reported that Roger Malcolm stabbed his white employer, Barney Hester, because of Hester's attempt to seduce his wife? PM, a reputable New York publication, has reported these facts. Is there any justification for a man protecting the sanctity of his home? Is there no extenuating circumstance that stems from a man's right to withhold his mate from the savage sensuality of another? Could not the daily newspapers tell this side of Roger Malcolm's story to good purpose? Why should the white world be led to believe that a black man without rhyme or reason, wilfully and felonously stabbed a white man? Sat 8-4-46

What would happen down in Dixie were a Negro man to approach white women under similar conditions as complained of by Malcolm? This would be justification for violent action on the part of any white spouse who knew of such unlawful approach of a black man, but why should we argue that a black man who seeks to protect the virtue of his women folk must die?

THE DEEP SOUTH SPEAKS

The Tribune

BY ROBERT DURR

Washington, D.C. Sat. 8-10-46

(For the NNPA News Service)

Tension has been rising in the South during the past twelve years at a more accelerated rate than in the preceding forty years.

Up to twelve years ago, many colored persons in the rural sections thought that if a way could be found to make five ears of corn or five bales of cotton grow where one formerly grew, poverty, out of which all other ills are bred, would become the vanishing evil of the deep South—but they found they are a part of a system which takes their all, be it one ear of corn, one bale of cotton, or an increase of five of each.

342(1)(b)

As they attempt to escape by migrating from rural to urban centers, they find that the system is, the same. They made the discovery that they constitute what had been termed by southern Chambers of Commerce as the docile, happy-go-lucky, cheap labor supply.

They awoke to the fact that—contrary to the rather generally accepted bunk that it takes more for white people to live than it takes for colored people—it actually cost colored people more to live than it costs whites because of the dual system in which we live. Further, they discovered that it has been proved on every soil that those who think rule those who toil, and that in order to do effective thinking and meditation one must have leisure.

These people made another discovery too—that as rapidly as possible they had to escape the slave status in the rural areas as tenants and day laborers and domestics in the urban centers. They became tragically aware of the fact that in the main all white men's schools for colored students were designed to prepare colored people for "service" within the framework of the traditions of the old South and to that South. . .

In the fields, the wash tubs, the kitchens and everywhere, black men and women began to struggle to build homes of their own, by farms of their own, to emancipate their wives and daughters from "working out for white folks" in a manner which white persons would not under similar circumstances work for colored persons.

They became conscious of the fact that as you ride through the towns, cities and the rural sections of the South you see colored girls and women nursing white children and working as domestics, which they were forced to do or starve or be jailed for vagrancy and brutalized by white police while their homes and children were left to the mercy of white and black wolves.

What happened in Georgia recently—the lynching of two men and two women— stems out of the fact that one of the victims could not endure being repremanded, humiliated and degraded by the poor white man for whom he had been working for nothing. They argued.

One of the colored men is alleged to have stabbed his white employer. What happened is symbolic of what is and has been hapening to the masses of colored people in thousands of ways in an effort to keep and use them as servants is a society operated on a horizontal basis —white men up and black men down.

What happened at Columbia, Tenn., and at Monroe, Ga., also is symbolic of the results which will follow the efforts of colored people to escape total destruction, if they persist, as they must, in being fully emancipated.

They know now they must look to themselves as if everything depends on themselves for their liberation motivated by a righteous madness stemming from Almighty God. He knows that there comes a time in the life of a people or nation when men must really fight. That time has come. Every colored person everywhere must lay aside every weight which greviously besets the race and deny ourselves to the end that we may cease to aid and abet our oppressors.

The lynching of the four persons in Georgia was the lynching of the defenseless all over the world. The brutal mistreatment of the riot victims in Columbia, Tenn., was mistreatment of underprivileged people everywhere. It now becomes the all-important business of colored people and lovrs of justice everywhere to organize and activate an anti-intolerance educational program, global in scope.

Four million colored people in the United States ought raise not less than $4,000,000 to be used in the prosecution of such a program and to track down the perpetrators of lynchings. We ought immediately setup a fund of not less than $100,000 as reward and prosecution money for the apprehension, conviction and punishment of the Georgia lynchers. There must be some eye-for-an-eye and tooth-for-tooth handling of cases like this during these days.

I have just sent C. A. Scott, editor of The Atlanta Daily World, my contribution to start a $100,000 fund to finance the tracking down of the Georgia lynchers, matchin, Governor Ellis Arnall's posted reward, and to initiate and prosecute an anti-inolerance educational program designed to reach and convert peoples in the bookworm sections of the South into human beings who can live together in such a way that there may be peace, growth, security and happiness for all.

I have asked Mr. Scott to call a meeting of the Southern Region of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association to work out a plan of action. Sat. 8-10-46

If we can go ten thousand miles across the seas and track down those who perpetrated crimes against mankind, we ought to be able to do it in Georgia. If we do it elsewhere, we must do it in Georgia. I say, we, because what happened in Georgia is everybody's business.

A Ghastly Crime And A Blot On The Nation

The Star of Zion

Charlotte, N.C. Thurs 8-1-46

The Massacre of Monroe, Georgia, in which four people were wantonly murdered, only one of whom was even charged with any offense, has shocked the nation and called forth condemnation from many sources of the country. These cruel and inhuman murders constituted the most ghastly and dastardly crime one can imagine; it was a blot upon the state of Georgia, upon America, and one which will not be erased, except in part by the capture and total punishment of the inhuman brutes who perpetrated the offense.

342(1)(b)

As surprised and shocked as the nation was, it should have occasioned little surprise in the light of the campaign of hate and anti-racial spleen which was recently staged by the man who was named to be governor of Georgia for the next four years. In a moral sense that man is no less guilty of this heinous crime than the men who fired the guns that snuffed out the lives of the helpless victims, one of whom had fought for five years in the Armed Forces of the nation overseas, risking his life to win for his nation and its citizens the Four Freedoms.

Roger Malcolm, even though charged with an offense, which evidently was not unprovoked or he would not have been released on $600 bond, was entitled under the law to a fair trial. Middie Kate Malcolm, his wife, George and May Dorsey, had done nothing but prove their kinship for a relative in trouble. These four young people, all recently married, hoping against hope, perhaps, to make a go of life even in Georgia, have been done to death in fashion as brutal as any butchery ever committed by Hitler and his cohorts.

And Gene Talmadge, who will soon be the governor of Georgia, merely expresses regret and a sinister sympathy for Governor Arnall that this thing happened during the latter's administration. Talmadge expressed no desire that the guilty culprits be caught and punished, but expressed the "hope" that such incidents would be kept at a minimum during his own administration. We wonder what he would consider a minimum? May God have mercy on Georgia for the next four years. 342(1)(b)

Letter To The Editor

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga. Thurs. 8-22-46

EXPRESS SPECIAL CONCERN TO LYNCHING

Editor, Atlanta Daily World:

The following letter was sent to President Truman by a group of Atlanta University Summer Session students:

342(1)(b)

"We, a group of teachers and ministers representing 15 southern states, here assembled for the 1946 Summer Session of Atlanta University, and being registered in the courses of Rural Education, do hereby express our deep and special concern over the recent savagely, brutal killing of four helpless Negroes near Monroe, Ga., by a band of ruthless murderers.

"Our deep concern over this case is threefold:

1. "As members of a minority group, we sacrificed and fought in the recent World War that we, along with other Americans and other peoples of the world over might enjoy the Four Freedoms so nobly expressed in the Atlantic Charter. Should Georgia, the United States, and the United Nations Organization give consent and encouragement to the act by failing to arrest and justly punish this band of murderers, our sacrifices and bloodshed shall have been in vain.

2. "As law-abiding and liberty-loving citizens of the United States we are humiliated beyond degree to have a small band of "aliens" so stigmatize our glorious name before the eyes of the world.

3. "Being especially interested in developing a more wholesome efficient, and satisfying rural life, we further deplore such outrages as they serve directly to nullify every effort that has been or can be put forth in this direction, and to accelerate the already too prevalent movement of our people away from the unprotected rural areas into the degradation of our overcrowded city slums.

"We, therefore, humbly and prayerfully petition your sustained efforts until every person involved in this atrocious crime be apprehended and persecuted before the eyes of the world in order that this bloody stain may be blotted out and America might justly claim a place of world leadership in the struggle for equality of freedom and justice to all."

M. A. CLARKE, Chairman
R. A. BRYANT
A. D. REDMOND
Atlanta

34d(1)(b) 1946

7290

Drastic Action Is Needed

The action of Gov. Ellis Arnall in ordering an investigation of the massacre of two men and their wives near Monroe last Thursday by a mob of white men, and his subsequent offering of rewards totaling $10,000 for information as to the identity of the guilty persons is encouraging and some what reassuring to the Negroes of this state. But frankly, we feel more drastic action should be taken to apprehend the perpetrators of these most henious crimes. Tuesday 7-30-46 (Ga.)

342(04)

These are some of the questions that have not been answered:

Why did Loy Harrison go by way of a side road instead of the highway to his farm?

Why did the sheriff wait until late in the afternoon to release the man who had been held for the cutting of his white employer?

If this cutting affair was considered serious why was the accused released under the inconsequential amount of $600.00?

Atlanta Georgia

The reports state that 20 to 30 men comprised the mob. This is a lot of people and certainly many people in the community must know some of them. Negroes no doubt know about some of the strange actions of some of the mob-members either before or after the killings. It seems possible to us, that with the appointment of some Negro agents sufficient confidence could be established in the Negroes in Walton County to get them to talk.

Why shouldn't Gov. Arnall remove from office Sheriff Gordon who is quoted in the press as being unable to do anything further about the murders?

These are only some of the questions that should be answered and it seems that the persons who should be required to answer them are easily accessible.

It should be clear to all thinking people why this massacre occured. It is clearly the result of the race-hatred incited during the recent primary election. It is intended to intimidate the Negroes from attempting to vote in the future. But Negroes of this state have sufficient courage and determination to see that this result is not achieved. We must be willing to defend this right at all cost.

This revolting crime must not be white washed or allowed to fade out with time. The state administration is duty bound to relentlessly push this case until the guilty persons are punished in accordance with the severity of the crime they have committed. Daily World.

As we see it those shots were not only fired at those innocent and defenseless Negroes, but they were in spirit directed also at the present administration both in Georgia and Washington.

No Longer Any Excuse

Daily World

Seeking something behind which to hide their petty professional jealousies and narrow denominationalism, a few carping critics among Atlanta Negroes have sought to block the ongoing of the statewide Defense Fund to raise $100,000 by saying the job belongs to the NAACP. But happily, that prop has been shaken completely from under them by a clearcut and forthwith statment of the position of Prof. C. L. Harper, head of the local chapter. He says:

Georgia

"The Atlanta Branch of the NAACP is in full accord with the National Office to have justice done to the persons who brutally lynched four Negroes near Monroe, Georgie last July 25. In Atlanta a committee of citizens, headed by Dr. William Holmes Borders, pastor of the Wheat Street Baptist Church, is making a special effort to raise a fund of $10,000 to be posted as a reward and to be used to help the families of the persons lynched. The president of the Atlanta chapter was out of the city at the time of the lynching. In the meantime, the Citizens Committee was organized. Accordingly, I feel very strongly that this should be our official group and should be supported by both Negroes and whites who believe in law and order. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that we unite our efforts and give of our means and work for the protection of the least among us. This is no time for division. It is time for concerted action." Atlanta, Ga.

(Ga.)

That statement, clear enough to convince the most critical, should set at rest any person or group of persons sincerely in earnest about their opposition. But it will not satisfy those who, in the first place, have never done anything, either for the NAACP or any other organization devoted to Negro advancement. Their purpose is to howl, no matter who institutes a program. It is their method of withholding financial support to any worthwhile cause. They are the ones who are always preaching about our rights but are never willing to do anything more than talk—which is cheap enough. No Negroes bother to listen to this type of obstructionist any longer, for the woods is simply full of them. The mass of Negroes in Atlanta and in Georgia want to do something to aid these victim families and no amount of petty jealousy and cheap obstructionism is going to stop them. 8-13-46 Tues.

Lesson of the Georgia Lynchings

Louisiana Weekly, New Orleans, La.

WE must be concerned about what happened in Monroe, Georgia, where four Negroes were lynched on July 25th. It represents a pattern for suppressing the rights and liberty of minority groups in this country.

The pattern is that of Hitler. For the Nazis, too, used to employ hatchet-men for striking down their victims in cold blood. They, too, employed terroristic methods, saying that in pursuing this line of conduct they were not violating anybody's civil rights. Of course not. The Nazis discounted human rights and felt no obligation to recognize and respect them. Knowing what Nazism was we expected that. But knowing what Americanism is, with its emphasis on the sacredness of human personality, we cannot condone the violation of human rights in this country.

342(04)

In the Georgia lynching situation we are face to face, not with Americanism, but with a type of Naziism in the United States. If the people who are responsible for the use of Nazi methods in lynching four American citizens in Georgia are not brought to justice, if this pattern of terrorism and murder is not disavowed by the American people, then there is no minority group in this country which is secure against the same kind of injustice to which the Negroes of Georgia have been subjected. 8-24-46

If we have learned anything from the experience of mankind under Hitlerism it is that injustice working through terrorism must be stopped when it first appears. Had the people of Germany refused to permit persecution of the Jews they would all have been spared the experience of persecution by the Nazi tyranny at a later time.

What happened in Monroe, Georgia is not simply the concern of Negroes. The injustice done to them is an injustice done to all people. The human rights violated in their case is the violation of the rights of us all. Sat.

Atrocities Near Monroe Recalled By Aged Resident

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

34 d (1)(b)

MONROE, Ga. — (ANP) — An aged resident of this section recalling a mass lynching of eight Negro men near here almost 50 years ago, said last week there is support for the statement that "lynching is a pasttime in Oconee, Walton and Clark counties of Georgia." Tues. 8-6-46

In the turn-of-the century lynching, the victims were taken from the jail at Watkinsville, fastened to a fence and riddled with bullets the citizen remembered. In another lynching a few years later, a Negro was taken from jail in Athens a short distance from Monroe, and burned at the intersection of the road leading to Monroe, he declared.

Influences In Ga. Lynchings Seen

Daily World
Tues.
Atlanta, Ga.

34 d (1)(b)

COLUMBIA, Tenn.—(NNPA)— A defense attorney for thirty-one colored men indicted in the February race riot here said last Tuesday he feels the Georgia elections and the Federal Grand Jury report on the Columbia affair "had something to do" with the recent lynching of four persons in Georgia.

The defense attorney, Alexander Looby of Nashville, said the defense will seek a continuance if its plea for another change of venue is denied Saturday when more than 20 defendants go on trial at Lawrenceburg on charges growing out of the Columbia case.

"The Federal Grand Jury report," Mr. Looby said, "might have given some white people the idea they could do what they want." 8-6-46

Their Blood Is On His Hands

The Black Dispatch Oklahoma City, Okla.
Sat. 8-3-46

34 d (1)(b)

And now like Pilate of old, who tried to wash the blood of Christ from his hands, Gene Talmadge, down in Georgia, seeks to rinse his palms. Talmadge is just as guilty of the lynching of four Negroes who died at the hands of frenzied poor whites on the banks of the Appalachee river, near Rome, Georgia, last Thursday, as were the demoniac fieldish brutes who violated the First Commandment.

For the past six monts, Gene Talmadge has roamed and raved like an unleshed lion over the red erroded clay hills of Georgia, telling white people Negroes were to be reckoned as dogs and cattle. He warned and threatened the blacks if they appeared at the polling places seeking to vote on election day trouble might occur. Negroes did swarm to the polls on election day, and now when a band of lawless murderers blast the lives out of black men and women with their guns. Gene Talmadge wants to wash his hands of the affair by turning his back and saying, "Such incidents are to be regretted."

Even though the blood of Christ was on his hands, Pilate was able to turn to the Master and in a moment of extremity say, "Seest what these people say about you"; but in the present instance, it is the mob who can turn to Talmadge and say "We have heard what you had said regarding the victims of our wrath." Having passed judgment upon the blacks Talmadge quails when he remembers the scriptural admonition, "Judge not that ye be not judged."

But muderous guilt does not end with the hands of Talmadge. Whn w read in the daily papers that the head of Georgia's state police announces "the best people in town won't talk about this," we immediately enter a vicious conspiracy o fsilence for which every citizen in the immediate vicinity of this heinous crime must accept responsibility. Why should any honest, upright citizen uphold and shield murderers? There is a great deal of question regarding the piety and morality of a citizen who conceals testimony against evil, and who knowingly will withhold information that would halt terrorism and human slaughter in his community. How could the sheriff assume that citizens who, stymying his efforts at detecting murderous criminals, were the "best people"?

And then culpabilty and depravity reaches out to compass our entire social system when we find operatives of the federal government announcing that in the willful shooting down of four Negro men and womn in Walton County, Georgia, no federal law has been violated. We allege we have the greatest civilization on earth in America, and we condemn the system of government in Russia, but wilful destruction of human lives on the altar of race prejudice is a crime punishable by death in the land of the Soviets. Why should American Negroes be intrigued with the thought that a land where black citizens may be inhumanly massacred without violating constitutional guarantees, is an ideal social environment? Upright men shall be astonished that human beings guilty of such turpitude and atrocity would seek to assume the moral leadership of the world.

The Black Dispatch has for many years taken the position that this nation places greater value on property rights than it does on human rights. Despite the constitutional guarantee in the 14th amendment which says that no citizen shall be deprived "of life, liberty or property" without due process of law, it is all right under the Stars and Stripes for white policemen to gouge out the eyes of a Negro soldier; for white citizens to arm and march down into the Negro section, as in Columbia, Tennessee, to loot, burn property and kill; or, in the case down in Walton County, Georgia, where a murderous, diabolical goon counts one, two, three while his bestial confederates pump hot lead into the breathing bodies of innocent black men and women. No federal law has been violated when human scoundrels sink to such levels. There's nothing the central government can do about this utter and calloused disregard for human life. We do not even need anti-lynching legislation or any corrective influence over state rights.

But when in the same balliwick, or political unit, a lawless rascal so senseless as to kidnap a rich person and hold him for ransom, America finds a way to stop that. When the Lindburgh baby was apprehended and other rich people were held in lawless custody by criminals, immediately following the first world war, we quickly passed the "Lindburgh Kidnaping Bill" that makes it a crime punishable with death to kidnap an individual and hold him for ransom. In other words, in the United States we make it a capital offense to steal money from the rich, but we find no federal ground upon which to stand and penalize those who steal the lives of black people. When we measure our social system by this yardstick of human decency and morality, this nation is unquestionably "weighed in the balances and found wanting." Sat. 8-3-46

Since the sheriff and other responsible officials cannot identify the murderous evil-doers who snuffed out the lives of four Negroes, the Black Dispatch suggests a plan that might strike paydirt. It is ridiculous when one thinks of the apparent official dumbness that seems to pervade Walton County, Georgia, and the state police now supposed to be investigating this high crime. Why not arrest and hold incommunicado this "prosperous farmer," J. Roy Harrison? According to newspaper reports, one of the Negro men shot is alleged to have stabbed his white employer. This same news report says this Negro had been released on a $600 band, and that Harrison was taking the accused Negro along with others down to his farm to work.

Just when did Georgia authorities start releasing Negroes charged with stabbing a white employer on $600 bonds? How did it happen that twenty whites had been advised as to the direction in which Harrison was proceeding with these Negroes, and how does it happen that the "retired business man" had his group of murderous maniacs so well organized that all he had to do was count "one, two three," and the shooting commenced? Does anyone with discourse to reason believe that this fellow Harrison, who had been given custody of these Negroes, did not have guilty knowledge of this unholy plan to snuff out the lives of his prisoners? On its face it looks a whole lot different and justifiable to have Harrison with the prisoners, than to have discovered them in custody of the sheriff; but where was the sheriff when these Negroes were placed in the hands of this prosperous farmer? Was he anywhere about during the judicial arrangement of the mob's victims? It seems to this writer that it would be well to place the justice of the peace and the sheriff incommunicado for a short spell and slap a lie detector under their snouts. The Black Dispatch does not believe investigators would have to proceed past the sheriff, justice of the peace and this man Harrison to secure information as to the identity of the mob. Sat. 8-3-46

34 d (1)(b)

Then too, where were the immediate members of the family of the man who was stabbed, immediately prior to and following the lynching? Has anyone attempted to bring them into custody and make serious inquiry as to their movements on the night of this stark tragedy? No one seems to have apprehended and jailed what a trained investigator would characterize as "interested" parties. Law enforcement agencies in Walton County, Georgia, are extremely familiar with such stringent tactics in crime detection, and have proceeded in like manner in hundreds of cases where Negroes were involved only in misdemeanors.

If President Truman at this moment had the moral courage to rise to the exigency of this crisis, he would declare martial law in Walton County, Georgia; he would arrest all of the "good white citizens" who will not talk. In the establishment of justice there is excuse and vindication for wholesale arrests when law and order breaks down. This is the unquestioned rule when a Negro commits a crime, and feeling exists that he is being harboured in the immediate vicinity. To uncover hypocrisy in Georgia state rule it will be necessary, in the language of a famous reconstructionist, to be "as harsh as truth and as uncompromising as justice." One cannot play favorites if he is honestly and sincerely attempting to preserve American citizenship.

7291

Signs Of Things To Come

The unprecedented lynching of two women and two men near Monroe, Georgia, last Thursday under the stillness of Georgia's sunshine, foreshadows a new era of hate, mob violence and lawlessness in the state. It is the natural sequel of an amazing and incredible period of incitement to hate and violence between the races. Indeed it takes on the appearance of a planned pattern of intimidation, threats and conspiracy in an effort to deprive Negroes of their civil liberties.

34d(1946)

Memphis, Tenn.

Here is a situation so brutal and sordid that it defies description in any language. To view the bullet-ridden bodies of these victims, but also for supplying information and clues sense of horror, incredibility and stark shame of a state or a community which is capable of producing such outlaws and hoodlums.

Tuesday 7-30-46

Governor Arnall, in his characteristic fairness, has expressed a determination to launch a searching investigation of the multiple lynchings in an effort to bring the guilty to account. The Federal Bureau of Investigation promises to lend every cooperation in the effort. And there can be no doubt but that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, together with Negroes in Georgia and throughout the nation will speed the collection of a Defense Fund to aid the victims' families and further the investigation. We do not think that Negroes should stand aside and wait for the Government to conduct these investigations alone. They have a direct responsibility for prompt and decisive action, not only in aiding the families of these victims, is to become completely possessed with a to governmental agences in the study of these lynchings. It is the only logical step we can take to put an end to such archiac behavior. Furthermore, these mobsters need to be punished in the only language that they know. They need to be hailed before the courts and dealt with in the sternest sort of manner, commensurate with the dastard crimes which they have committed.

7-30-46

Today, Georgia is living in the throes of fears, illwill and grave misunderstandings, no small part of which issues from the recently ended gubernatorial race in which the flames of hatred were fanned to unbelievable heights. As a consequence, the eyes of the nation are observing its every motion. Either we must come to grips with this wave of fears and mistrust or we will be subjected to further violence, bloodshed and lynching.

As Long As There Is One

World Memphis, Tenn. Fri. 8-23-46

We have been particularly struck with the reasoning of a few white citizens, who in their letters to editors of Georgia newspapers, insist upon asking "Why all of this kick-up over the lynching of four Negroes near Monroe, Georgia, when, every day or so some person in New York or Chicago is done to death by racketeers or gangsters?" Admitted. But is that the basis on which sensible and morally competent Americans are going to be guided? Just because a New York or Chicago father comes home depressed over his conditions and turns a revolver on his entire family and himself, is that reason enough to impel others to do the same? And, is that reason enough to justify the cheapness with which life is held or the plain denial of the life and liberty guaranteed to every citizen, no matter what his color or station?

34d(1946)

We think little and care less about the comparisons between murders in Chicago and New York by gangsters on the one hand and lynching bees in the South on the other hand. The important thing is, that in far too many instances, the law enforcement officers have been found to be intimately acquainted with the lynchers and their work, while in only a few instances has the law been identified with the work of these gangsters. And finally, let this be said, as long as there is one lynching, whether it is carried out in Walton County, Georgia or in Chicago, it is one too many for civilized America.

Everybody knows the true meaning and spirit behind lynching. It is not regulated by law. Lynchers are laws unto themselves. They are their own judges and jurors. Everything they do is done under cover. They are cowards who strike and run to cover. And often times it has been found that the cover they seek are the so-called leading citizens of a community; the ministers, the church people and all the others who know but have neither the moral courage or spiritual fortitude to rise up and expose and uncover them. Failing in such an important area, what then is left for decent public sentiment to do save cry out against it with all their souls and minds and strength?

Sympathy For Monroe Children

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Deeply moved, as all civilized humans everywhere must be, by the cruelty of the mass lynching of four Negroes—two women and two men—near Monroe, Georgia, July 25, the Chicago Council of Applied Religion with headquarters at Evanston, Illinois, is making plans to establish an educational fund for the children of the lynch victims. From Boston comes request from another foundation for the names of the school-age children of the lynch victims, in order that a permanent educational fund may be set up for their education.

Thurs. 8-27-46

34d(1946)

It is heartening, in the midst of the deep gloom for the members of the immediate families, to know that there are some friends, although they may be surrounded by heartless and unfriendly ones. This manifestation of interest and sympathy toward these children should mean much to Negroes generally. For, no matter how we may think, all of us are potential victims of the lynch-mob. That is why our patience wears thin whe we hear Negroes, not to mention Negro leaders who ought to know better, saying what a Negro minister is reported to have said to his congregation by advising that "maybe the church ought to stay out of a thing like this." We agree with him if the purpose of his church is to use his members as tools for his own vicious ends to get money and to hold anniversaries. But if his church is patterned on the principles of the Prince of Peace, then aid to the Monroe unfortunates is its highest duty, even above his own food and shelter—at least for a period.

So let us all not only give to this fund to stem the lynching tide but likewise volunteer whatever information is needed to speed the removal of the lynch victims' children and families away from such a community.

Edwin R. Embree, outlining the next step in Negro advancement, advised among other things, that Negroes should: "Keep moving out of the South. There is no decent life for all of you in the southern rurals so far as the mind of man can see. You will have a hard time even in the North and West, but at least you'll have some freedom. You'll once in a while be treated as human beings. You'll have decent schools for your children and some public and provision for recreation . . . You'll have some opportunity for work and professional practice in sections that are prosperous and progressive . . . Negroes should move out of the South during this decade. Move North, my colored friends, keep moving North and West."

"At first reading, perhaps the average Negro leader would not share the views of Mr. Embree. But a knowledge of the conditions under which Negroes are forced to live in the rural areas would at once emphasize the validity of reasoning. There simply is no security or safety for Negroes in the rural South. Neither is there any liklihood of any decent livlihood for them, at least in the immediate future..

Our Solemn Obligation

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Sun. 8-4-46

The statewide campaign to secure a Defense Fund of $100,000 to aid the grief-stricken families of Walton County and at the same time, to establish a permanent fund with which to carry on the fight against future lynchings of Negro citizens of Georgia, is at once a solemn obligation and a ringing challenge to every Negro in the state, poor as well as rich, and illiterate as well as educated. It is an undertaking which concerns, in a most vital and peculiar sense, everyone of us. For until the least Negro in the backwoods of Georgia is safe and secure from the lynch rope, none is safe, even in Atlanta, Savannah, Macon or Columbus. Thus, it behooves all of us to swing in behind this statewide effort at once and do our utmost, both from the point of view of personal contributions and personal service in seeing that every Negro is given an opportunity to make a contribution commensurate with his or her ability to do so.

It is both fitting and fortunate to have Dr. William Holmes Borders, distinguished pastor of the Wheat Street Baptist Church, to consent to give of his valuable time and energy to head up such a worthy drive. Associated with him as vice-chairman is John Wesley Dobbs, head of the Prince Hall Masons of Georgia; Warren Cochrane, executive secretary of the Butler Street YMCA, and Eugene Martin, secretary of the Atlanta Life Insurance Company. All of these men are well known in Atlanta and over the entire state. Not only do they possess a passion for service to their people, but they enjoy the absolute confidence and esteem of the Negroes throughout the state.

Negroes over the entire Nation are ready to aid this cause. Indeed many have already asked for the privilege of sending monies to aid the stricken families. But, Atlantans have withheld acceptance of these offers, preferring to place responsibility where it rightly belongs—on the shoulders of the citizens of Georgia. If, after Negro Georgians have been given the opportunity to give, it will be ample time to call upon our brothers outside of Georgia.

But we are unable to find a single reason why Georgians should need any help to raise so small a sum of money for so great a cause. In Atlanta alone, there are more than 100,000 Negroes who should raise this money within a fortnight. Then there is the further fact that more than 100,000 Negroes voted in the recent Georgia primary elections. These Negroes should not allow a single week to pass before they take it upon themselves and send in this money to the treasurer, E. M. Martin, 148 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta. Time is the essence in this drive. Let us hope that no Negro in Atlanta or Georgia feel his conscience clear or duty done until his personal contribution is received by the treasurer.

A NATION'S SHAME

The Whip, Miami, Florida

The tragic turn of events in Georgia fills us with profound distress. Georgia's quadruple lynching is a fitting climax to Gene Talmadge's victorious campaign. Georgia has had lynchings through many generations. The Arnall interregnum has given a respite, but Georgia has deliberately chosen Talmadgism, and with it a logical concomitant, lynching.

Sept-10-46

There is little need to raise hands of holy horror and heap upon Georgia a tirade of abuses stemming from an outraged public opinion, but the fact remains, lynching will follow Talmadgism just as surely as night follows the day. Talmadge summed up the matter logically when he said that such "incidents are to be regretted." Quadruple lynchings are mere "Georgia incidents" and will be for the next four years.

We need not be surprised if we have Negro pogroms in Georgia even as there were pogroms for the Jews of Europe. Moreover we may expect "Georgia incidents" to spread to Mississippi and Alabama and South Carolina. The stage is being set very carefully for the endless repetition of such "incidents". May God have mercy on the Negroes of the South!

After all is said and done, the conclusion is forced upon us that lynching is a Southern institution. Any condemnation of its lynching brings swift and scathing retorts from the South. When a northern congressman denounces the quadruple lynching in Geeorgia, a Southern congressman comes to the defense of the lynching South with remarks to this effect: "Such things could happen in any part of this country." The gentleman from the South was right; but he evidently overlooked this difference: When these things occur in "other parts" of the country, they are visited with swift justice. The guilty are punished forthrightly, and thus the shame of these "other parts" is mitigated. Nohting more is required of the law or of public opinion.

But in the South, these lynchers receive the protection of the law in that it refuses to exact of them an account for their crimes. Herein lies the difference between the incidents of the South and the incidents of the "other parts". **The other parts do something about it. Herein lies the greater condemnation of the South—it refuses to do something about these "Georgia incidents". Sensible men nowhere will condemn Georgia for its lynchings: but decent men everywhere will condemn Georgia for doing nothing about it!**

After all, the question arises: "Who is more to blame for the bloody 'incidents' in Georgia? The cowardly culprit who did to death four innocent Negroes are not the prime culprits in the case. These criminals are Georgia products, and they are just as much a part of Georgia as the thousands of fine women and men of all colors and persuasions.

Georgia has furnished a favorable habitat for Talmadgism and its comitant "incidents". Georgia is the home of the Ku Klux Klan. The fact of Georgia's millions of fine citizens does not negate the fact that Georgia has made itself a favorable incubator for Talmadgism and Ku Kluxism. Georgia has long been a haven for lynchers, so when just another "incident" flares forth to sicken a nation and the world, these mobbists are following a tradition and that fact mitigates—if mitigation is possible—the blame of the mobbists.

34d

The nation is to be blamed, for it has persistently refused to interfere with the "Georgia incidents" through many years. The nation has listened to the state's rights arguments and flatly refused to abrogate these rights to lynch. But since the country counts Georgia's population and resources in its census and shares pride in the achievements of Georgia, the nation is in a great measure responsible for what goes on in Georgia. Georgia is still a part of the United States. Her disgrace is a disgrace to this country, even as her achievements are a credit to the nation.

(116)

The United States then must share the blame for this most recent "Georgia incident". The greater blame for these "Georgia incidents" rests upon those Southerners who have stubbornly refused to accept the federal help in blotting out a shame that they themselves cannot prevent. The blame for the stubborn resistance to the several anti-lynching bills must be laid at the door of those proud Southerners who put sectional pride before the destruction of the menace of lynching. They have deliberately chosen the shame of lynching before the humiliation of outside interference.

7292

Protesting Mob Murder

The Black Dispatch Oklahoma City, Okla.

Despite the wide prevalence of violence and mob murder over the nation, and the planned demonstration to take place in the nation's capital this week against the breaking down of law and order, under the leadership of Paul Robeson and other outstanding leaders, both black and white, only a half-filled church greeted white and Negro speakers at Cleaves Memorial Friday evening, and advertised as a protest meeting against lynching.

34d(1)(b)

Just what occasioned such calloused indifference to such an important meeting is hard to fathom. Rev. Hollis, the pastor of the church, was the only Negro minister present. One teacher arrived there was not in evidence the heads of many of the organizations in the city constantly requesting that their leadership be accepted.

Sat. 9-28-46

To the credit of the NAACP, we can say the president of the organization was on hand, as was also the leadership of the United Veterans Committee. Both of these leaders made forthright addresses which indicates their organizations are headed by leaders who should merit the respect of the community. Negroes are not going to get anywhere in Oklahoma City following folk who run at every shadow, and who dodge responsibility on vital questions such as lynching.

All honorable citizens should believe in law and order. Men submit to government for reasons of personal safety, and, to employ the language of the Constitution, "for peace, tranquility and happiness." Whenever the binding practices and customs of a community are set aside, even momentarily, citizens should become alarmed. Security rests solely in maintaining public sanctions arrived at when the populace had moral and mental poise, and equilibrium.

There should be bitter opposition at all times to any emotionalism that would set aside established law and order, and minority groups have a greater stake in supporting charters of liberties than any other group. Whenever there is a vacation and abandonment of law, minorities suffer violence, and ofttimes destruction. All students of history know this, and an alerted black citizenship should recognize this fatal cancerous social growth in its incipiency.

Unrestrained violence knows no race or color. The Lowly Nazarene was the first outstanding victim of a mob, and we suspect that if Jesus Christ had sought public office in Germany during the reign of Hitler He would have been lynched because of his religious faith. When the Statute of Kilkenny was written in England in the 16th century an Irishman who was foolhardy enough to have married a Briton would have been mobbed. In fact, the Statute of Kilkenny visited the penalty of death upon both Irish and English who disregarded race prejudice of that period and entered into the holy bonds of matrimony. The mob spirit, whether expressed in the habiliments of the law, or in a temporarily organized group of frenzied men, is the exponent of unreason, the representative of blind fury.

The unleshed wave of violence that swept America during the reconstruction period had for its purpose the elimination of the black man's citizenship and the nullification of the war amendments. The plantation owner down in Dixie felt his salvation rested in keeping the white worker and the Negro separated. With this in mind he, with evil purpose, spread false propaganda regarding the black man's honor and integrity. Working class white people were told that the free Negro was a menace to white womanhood, and unless terrorized by the mob, would rape and violate the bodies of white women. For almost seventy-five years this vicious lie has been circulating all over America, causing millions of white people to make false appraisals of their dark-skinned neighbors.

It was the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that launched a campaign thirty years ago to protect the good name of black men in America. Records compiled by this association show that not more than ten per cent of the Negro lynched, or charged with rape, were guilty of this heinous crime. The same reocrds show that on the other hand the common practice down South is to lynch Negroes for the following reasons: (authority, Department of Research, Tuskegee Institute)

Being a witness, writing insulting notes, improper conduct, insisting on eating in a restaurant when refused service, threatening man with knife, trying to act like a white man, and not knowing his place; being a strike breaker, using insulting language, striking white man in quarrel, discussing a lynching, making boastful remarks, misleading mob, vagrancy, slapping boy, jumping labor contract, insisting on voting, gambling, incindiarism, throwing stones, enticing servant away.

It can be readily seen that none of the above reasons for unlawfully taking the lives of Negroes down South have anything whatsoever to do with rape. We recall when this writer arrived in Sherman, Texas, several years ago to investigate the lynching of George Hughes, the daily newspapers said Hughes was guilty of raping the wife of a white farmer, but when we arrived on the scene we discovered that that white farmer in question had refused to pay Hughes a just debt, and that in the melee that followed the white farmer got soundly thrashed. It is an unpardonable sin for a Negro to strike a white man in East Texas, and with this in mind it was very easy for this white farmer and his friends to offer the usual excuse justifying lynching. Most all lynchings down South have economic backgrounds. The lynching of Jake Brooks in Oklahoma City several years ago had economics lurking in the background. Jake Brooks was a strikebreaker. Negroes should hold mass meetings in protest to lynching if for not other reason than to advise Negroes to join labor unions, collectively bargaining for work, and never scab. Surely we should do this in Oklahoma City as the result of bitter experiences.

34d(1)(b)

During the past year black men have been the victims of the mob and unreason in many sections of the United States. In February, four Negro veterans were killed in cold blood in Birmingham. There was no justification for this blood-letting except that Negro and white soldiers were fraternizing together at the railway station.

< February 13, a returned Negro veteran, Isaac Woodard, three hours after leaving an army separation center, had his eyes savagely gouged out by a white policeman.

February 25, Columbia, Tennessee, whites invaded the Negro community and killed two Negroes, following an altercation between a white storekeeper and a Negro woman, at which time a Negro youth sought to protect his mother.

July 17, in Taylor County, Georgia, Macio Snipes, a Negro veteran, was dragged from his home and killed by four men. Snipes was the only Negro who had the courage to vote in Taylor county.

There follows July 25 the mass murder of two Negro men and two women. Three of these citizens were guilty of nothing more than the fact their skins were black. The fourth is said to have slashed a white man because this white man had insulted his wife.

It seems that in this wave of savagery, Negroes in Oklahoma City should see some justification for meeting somewhere and denouncing mob murder. The human race has climbed on protest, and this is an occasion when every intelligent black man and woman in America should enter his protest against the unreasoning wave of violence sweeping the nation.

It appears discerning persons should be able to observe in this holocaust of murder an organized conspiracy to do a definite task. The truth is, there if definite intention on the part of reactionary forces in America to prevent union labor to organize down in Dixie. The technique of the capitalistic crowd is to create confusion and terrorism among the white and black masses and thus halt the progressive movement.

The new thought down South is that segregation, disfranchisement and low wage scales must be banished from that section. Reaction says it must remain. Where is the sensible black man or woman who cannot see the wisdom in supporting a system that would return democracy in the form of political and economic freedom to his very doorstep? Make no mistake, the wave of lynching just now results directly from the efforts of those who want to maintain the status quo. The terrible slaughter and maiming of Negroes in recent months is directed by those who are determined that semi-peonage, illiteracy, malnutrition and poor housing shall remain permanent patterns of living down in Dixie.

Sat 9-28-46

It is so easy to forget. Perhaps the fact that only a handful of blacks were lynched last year causes many to assume that mob murder is nothing more than a casual incident in the life of the nation. Let's let the record speak. Would it not be shocking to know that during the administration of President Benjamin Harrison, a period between 1889 and 1893, mobs blotted out the lives of 456 human beings? Let us take the administration of William McKinley. During those four years (1897 to 1901) 521 American citizens were victims of mob murder. Five hundred and eighty blacks were brutally slaughtered during the administration of "Teddy" Roosevelt and 378 of the mob's victims died during the administration of Woodrow Wilson.

Where is the black man or woman who can sit in complacency and without fear, while the Ku Klux Klan roars its murderous oaths on Stone Mountain and Gerald Smith is admitted to public buildings to spread his vicious doctrine of race hate? It is said the ancient Nero fiddled the night Rome burned, but the stupidity of that blind leader was nothing to compare with the assinine complex of Oklahoma City Negroes who played cards, attended shows and perhaps were mildly intoxicated the night a small portion of their group met to support law and order, and denounce lynching.

What to Do About Lynching

The Afro-American

If it is true that love of money is a major factor in American life, rewards totaling around 30 thousand dollars should be depended upon to lead to the identification of participants in Georgia's multiple lynchings.

But in this case, however, it is not likely that the lure of financial gain will be strong enough to overcome the traditionally close-mouthed reaction which usually sets in in Dixie communities where gory crimes such as these are committed.

Confessions are usually preceded by remorse and there is no indication to date of any shame or regret in the immediate area where the victims' bodies were found. Consequently, any information which is forthcoming is likely to come only through the efforts of outside investigators.

Although some 60 volleys are reported to have been fired into the bodies of the mob victims, investigators report that they can find but a few bullets. This has led to the belief that (1) care was taken to see that the bullets were removed before the investigators arrived or (2) the lynchings actually took place at some other spot and the bodies removed.

Baltimore, Md.

Even though there may be some suspects arrested, observers are quick to point out that they would be tried in Georgia courts and the persons sitting in judgment could hardly be expected to bring in a conviction.

A Federal anti-lynching law would do much to bring Georgia and other States in the Lynching Belt to their senses. The 79th Congress, just adjourned, effectively prevented a vote upon such legislation, as have previous Congresses.

Sat. 8-10-46

Unless sufficient pressure is exerted upon vacationing Congressmen and upon prospective members of Congress, we may well expect the same sorry performance from the next Congress. The crime which is Georgia's is the nation's shame. It is an open confession to other nations that Uncle Sam is long on preaching but short on practice when it comes to treatment of minorities.

Despite President Truman's statement and the entry of the FBI into the Georgia pogrom, the whitewash at Columbia, Tenn., is still too fresh in our minds to permit any undue optimism. Four persons are dead in Georgia and we hope their deaths are avenged.

But it is to the the end of preventing future crimes, however, that we may best direct our energies, and the most effective deterrent of which we know is a Federal law against lynching. Now is the time to lay the groundwork for it.

Federal Antilynch Law Only Answer to Georgia

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md. Sat. 8-3-46

The reign of terror which Gene Talmadge promised as reward for his gubernatorial nomination in the recent Georgia primary began to bear fruit last week when, within the space of 24 hours, five colored American citizens were slain in cold blood.

A mob at Monroe plumbed a new depth of bestiality by a shotgun massacre in ambush of two young married couples. One of the men was a World War II veteran of five years' service. The women victims were sisters.

At Butler, another war veteran, only colored person to vote in his district, was summoned from his dinner table by four white men and shot dead.

The multiple tragedy at Monroe goes down in the books as a lynching, but the usual verdict of "death at the hands of persons unknown" is listed. The killing at Butler, while just as much a lynching as the Monroe barbarity, identifies one of the slayers but lists "self-defense" as the motive.

In the Monroe lynchings, only one of the mob victims had been accused of any crime. The other three met a horrible death solely because of their color.

Despite several reward offers, totaling thousands of dollars, for the identification, arrest and conviction of the guilty parties, members of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation report little headway because of the refusal of Georgians with information to divulge it.

Sufficient diligence and zeal should reveal in quick order who the killers are. Collect the guns of all whites in the area and the bullets from the victims' bodies. Let a ballistics expert match them. It's that simple.

If our sleuths can uncover gigantic spy rings, they certainly should be able to uncover these Georgia terrorists and bring them to book.

The blood of these mob victims is on the hands of Gene Talmadge and all others of his ilk who have openly solicited reprisals against colored citizens. That this mass lynching had been planned well in advance may be gleaned from the fact that several hours before, all colored residents in the area had been ordered off the streets.

Added to this is the fact that no member of the mob was masked, indicating that there was no fear of being recognized. It was only after one of the women recognized one of the mobbists that the decision was reached to do away with them also. If one of the women was able to identify at least one of the lynchers, it is reasonable to assume that the white farmer, from whose automobile they were yanked, should also recognize some if not all of the mob members.

Yet, this man, who witnessed the entire proceedings, insists that he is unable to identify a single member of the mob. This doesn't add up.

Southern States are quick to express their resentment at "interference" by Northerners into their internal affairs, and they are quick to blame "outsiders" for any unrest or racial tensions that may exist.

Granted that there is a minority of white Georgians who honestly deplore last week's viciousness, the AFRO believes, as it always has, that nothing short of a Federal anti-lynching law will put an end to such violence.

Until States, as well as counties, municipalities and individuals, are made to pay dearly for such crimes, it is useless to sit supinely by and wait for the processes of education to bring Georgia and other Southern States to their senses and a feeling of shame at permitting outrages such as these to take place and, worse still, to go unpunished.

When the recent pogrom took place at Columbia, Tenn., five months ago, this newspaper warned that failure to inflict prompt punishment upon the guilty parties would indicate tacit sanction of such barbarism and give the green light to other Dixie communities.

The fact that not one white person has yet stood indicted for the Columbia affair, while more than a score of colored citizens still face trial for their "part" in it, indicates all too clearly that the South places no value whatever upon the lives of its colored citizens.

An outraged public opinion already has demanded that President Truman make some public statement in this matter as well as press for thorough investigation by the FBI. This matter does not concern Georgia alone; it concerns the entire nation by putting a cloud over its claims to world leadership.

Nothing from the horror camps of Germany and Japan can match the sadism and fury of Georgia's demonstration.

At one stroke—by one single act of barbarism—Georgia has turned back the clock of interracial progress a full four years. Not since 1942 have there been recorded as many as four lynchings in a single year.

It is manifest that Georgia must not be left to deal with its problem alone. It can and must be curbed through Federal anti-lynching legislation. There should be enough enlightened members of Congress to vote down the demagogues who insist that, if left alone, the South can work out satisfactorily its own salvation. Here is proof positive that it can't be done.

7288

Fascism Hits Louisiana

Louisiana Weekly

New Orleans, Louisiana

A MAN was beaten to death last week in Minden, Louisiana. He was a Negro. The coroner's report attributed his death to "multiple bruises and abrasions sustained at the hands of a person or persons unknown." The killing, murder, lynching or whatever you term it followed the pattern set in the Monroe, Ga., mass lynchings. The victim had been charged with housebreaking and subsequently released. He denied the charges and no formal charge was made against him. Shortly after his release, as in the Monroe mass murders, he was set upon by a person or persons unknown and beaten to death.

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Without a doubt, the pattern of Southern fascistic terror had hit Louisiana with the report of the latest violence against the Negro in the South. Heckled and goaded by the "white supremacy" twins, Bilbo and Talmadge, white Southerners now take the law into their own hands. Law and order do not seem to fit into their way of life. Hitler and the Nazis certainly must be proud of their American counterparts. Pogroms against Negroes in the South are quite similar to the Nazi pogroms against the Jews in Europe.

8-24-46

The sad part of the terroristic wave is that the good white people of the South and the law enforcement agencies, national and local, seem helpless to stop it. Some fine words, an indictment here and there in the recent wave of killings, lynchings and murders in Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina and Louisiana is the extent of the effort made to apprehend the criminals. No one has been punished and made to feel the weight of law and order. Respect for law and order is waning. There is no one that Negroes can look to honestly for protection in the South. If they can't protect themselves, they're just in hard luck.

In other words, our backs are to the walls—we have no one to depend upon for protection other than ourselves. If the pattern set against Hitler's hordes runs its true course, the Southern terrorists will find themselves confronted with an underground opposed to fascist principles just as the Germans did. There will be other nations who will aid the American underground just as we aided the underground fighting the Nazis. The United States will come to her destruction just as the Nazis came to theirs if the Southern fascist pattern continues to dominate and eventually gain control of this sweet land of liberty. Weak-kneed leaders and spineless law enforcement officials are slowly letting us drift into chaos.

It is no wonder Russia continues to rile Mr. Byrnes, our able Secretary of State from the state of South Carolina, where a veteran's eyes were gouged out by sadistic cops, where the politicians are trying to move heaven and earth to keep Negroes from exercising their constitutional right at the ballot box. We naturally wonder about a man's capabilities who comes from such a state.

Incidentally, Russia wonders the same thing in a [illegible] article in Pravda titled "Democracy in Byrnes Manner," said that Byrnes had tried to block discussion of the Italian issue by Russia and had backed down only on the insistence of Andrei Y. Vishinsky, Russian deputy foreign minister, who produced the minutes of the previous day's session to show Byrnes' attitude was unjustified.

"The head of the American delegation imagined himself the master of the conference," the Pravda article said. "He thought he was allowed to do anything. Democracy by Byrnes—he started putting it into effect by violating the elementary rules for participants in the conference.

"Mr. Byrnes forgot that he was presiding at an international conference, not a meeting in the State Department on the affairs of Panama and Honduras, where he could remove his coat and put his feet on the table. He forgot that he was chairman of a conference attended by representatives of sovereign, independent powers and not the usual clients of the Anglo-American bloc. Byrnes understands the role of chairman as the role of some provincial prince."

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With the critical situation at home and abroad, democracy, American style, must now realize it has to be practiced as well as preached, or else it will continue to lose face in the eyes of the world.

34d(2)(a) 1946

General

7294

A Song to Help Fight The Lynchings

Daily Worker 4d

(2)(a)

Hopewell Junction, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

When we read of the lynchings in the Daily Worker for the first time, it hit home with a terrific impact. It wasn't easy to make yourself realize that our own democratic country was harboring the seeds of fascism — right here at home.

We began talking about it and before we knew it, the result was the following parody on "The House I live In." We've been singing it up here at the camp at which we're working as counsellors.

When we read about the two other lynchings in the Carolinas, we decided we'd send the parody to you as a letter. We'd like to voice our protests through it, and we sincerely hope that the entire nation will protest and act against this outrageous violation of democracy and decency:

What is America to me?
I look around and here I see
This farce they call democracy,
What is America to me?

The Negro people throttled by the
  Klan
The mockery they make out of the
  rights of common man
The lynchings and the murders,
The crosses burning free—
The tears of tortured people
That's America to me!

The working man, the people on
  the street
This "promised land" that doesn't
  even give enough to eat
Yet when we rise in protest,
The rich folk call us "traitor"
And many a strike is strangled
By the fascist labor-baiter.

Fri 8-30-46

We preach about democracy to
  conquered Germany
While an American Georgia Negro
Is hanging from a tree!
We're shocked at bloody pogroms,
The Polish fascists brew
Yet over here the answer is
"Not wanted; you're a Jew!"

It's time our nation made its
  protests felt as well as heard
The Rankins and the Bilbos
Must end their fascist spree
It's time that we the people
Made a real democracy!

RUTH EHRLICH,
HELENE MASSION.

72.95

7295

Stop This Barbarism

An Editorial

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

34d (2)(a)

The stain of blood is growing, America.

Two more Negroes have been murdered.

How many more will die tomorrow?

The word has gone out. Throughout the South, the lynch word has gone out—any white hoodlum can kill any Negro without fear of punishment. That's the Talmadge-Bilbo law. And behind them stands U. S. Steel, Wall Street, the coal corporations of Alabama and the plantation masters.

They know that the law of "white supremacy" has the approval of the highest in the land. Including Secretary of State Byrnes, the man who said: *"This is a white man's country."* Sat 8-17-46 (gen.)

This paper challenges that Nazi racism as the Fifth Column within this country. It will fight every inch of the way for the program of the Communist movement to wipe lynching off the map!

- **Immediate Federal prosecution and the DEATH PENALTY for lynchers.**
- **Federal prosecution of the KKK on a nationwide scale.**
- **The removal of Attorney General Clark and FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover for failure to halt the lynchers.**
- **For a federal anti-lynching bill to be passed by an emergency congressional session called by President Truman IMMEDIATELY.** Sat 8-17-46

What American can fail to see that, without these actions, American democracy opens its gates to the Fifth Column which will destroy it.

A Powerful Anti-Lynch Film

Daily Worker

34d (2)(a) gen.

By David Platt

This month marks the 20th anniversary of the first sound movies. It is also the 10th anniversary of one of the most powerful films to come out of Hollywood, Fritz Lang's anti-lynch film Fury, released through Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

When **Fury** appeared in the summer of 1936, Benjamin J. Davis Jr., then on the staff of the Daily Worker, wrote: New York, N.Y.

"One cannot view it without recalling the horrible lynchings of more than 5,000 Negroes in this country since the Civil War, and without feeling an urge to do something about it."

Today a great many films made around that time, including the pro-lynch film **Frisco Kid** with James Cagney, are being revived; but not **Fury**, the one picture that could be of use in this period of lynch outbreaks against Negroes. Thurs 8-15-46

Instead, Hollywood meets the situation by releasing **The Virginian**, a vigilante film containing the brutal suggestion that lynching is necessary under certain conditions. This dangerous thought is being circulated to those very sections where the threat of mob rule is most serious. Justice demands the revival of **Fury** to help undo some of the damage caused by **The Virginian.**

MOB RULE

Fury told the story of Joe (Spencer Tracy), who was arrested and framed on a kidnaping charge while motoring to see his sweetheart Katherine (Sylvia Sidney). The frameup takes place in a small town somewhere in America. The lynch mob which sets fire to the jail to "get" Joe and cuts the water hose of the fire department as it "hurries" to put out the flames, is led by the "leading businessmen" of the town.

Fury was an important indictment of lynching despite the freak turn in the story when Joe makes a fantastic escape from his flaming cell and conceives a "fiendish" plot to destroy the leaders of the lynch mob.

A superb scene in the Governor's office showed a tie-up between politics and lynching. The Governor refused to send troops to "protect" the prisoner. When the soldiers did arrive, it was of course too late.

When one of the lynchers from out of town was asked to identify himself, he replied: **Oh, I'm just passing through. I've been to the city doing some strikebreaking for the car company. And I'm ready to go with you fellows to get the kidnaper."**

Another member of the mob was exposed as a petty criminal "who couldn't keep out of jail himself." These scenes, as Ben Davis pointed out, "were excellent in showing the composition and leadership of the lynch mob."

TRIAL SCENES Thurs 8-15-46

The trial of the would-be lynchers was particularly well done. While the court was pictured as eminently fair (the Hollywood touch) interested only in meting out justice to the guilty, the prosecuting attorney does make this vigorous declaration:

"There have been 6,010 persons 673 have ever been brought to trial. These cases deserve the greatest consideration."

The Sheriff, who grappled with the mob, provided an authentic moment when he testified that he could not identify a single member of the mob. One witness said "everyone in the mob was from out of town." She didn't know any of them. The prosecutor said "Foreigners eh?" She replied, with a sigh of relief, "Yes." Then the prosecutor, turning to the jury said:

SPENCER TRACY

"Gentlemen of the jury, it is the custom to put on foreigners the ills which exist in our conscience."

Ben Davis, in his penetrating article on **Fury**, pointed out some of its major weaknesses:

"It is, of course, impossible to get a full understanding of the lynching evil unless it is shown against a background of race-superiority poison, lynch terror and rape frameups against the Negro people. This is true notwithstanding the fact that there have been a number of white victims of lynch terror. As a result, the whole economic and social structure (for example, the division of Negro and white workers), which gives rise to lynchings is obscured. The whole lynch atmosphere appears to be engineered by the tongue of gossipy women.".

He added: "The miraculously escaped victim is pictured as a fiend who wants to take the life of 22 innocent citizens who were sorry for what they did as soon as they did it." This curious twist in the picture makes **Joe**, the victim of a blind lust for revenge, as if the desire to punish lynchers were a purely personal matter which in self can become a "main danger."

Despite these shortcomings Davis called **Fury** a significant document against lynching. "The fiendish glee on the faces of the mob as they howl at the burning of the victim, the organizing of the lynch mob by Chamber of Commerce gentlemen, the protection they received from the Governor down to the Sheriff and his deputies, these are points which will open the eyes of people who are accustomed to regard lynchings as a barbarous practice entirely unconnected with the political and economic structure of the capitalist system." Thurs 8-15-46

As we usher in the 20th anniversary of sound films, let us demand that MGM (1560 Broadway NYC) revive Fury, one of its greatest releases, as a test of this studio's interest in ridding America of the curse of lynching. Talk it over with your local theatre manager today.

LYNCHINGS

Only recently, lynchings in this land of justice for all had been reduced to one or two a year. Last year there were forty-one, and no arrests so far for any of them. Our indulgent forces of law and order dislike greatly to interfere with a free people's activities

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How Long, Mr. Truman?

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 8-21-46

34d (2)(a) (gen)

HOW long does the terror against the Negro people have to continue before the federal government decides to move?

In its savagery, in its extent and in its meaning, it is comparable to the war against the Jews conducted by Hitler's stormtroopers.

And Kluxer Bilbo remains a Senator.

But President Truman goes on vacation and Attorney General Tom Clark does nothing.

Let America read this description of the most recent lynching and square the government's inactivity with its conscience:

"Jones was burned about the face and body with a blow torch after a horrible beating at the hands of the

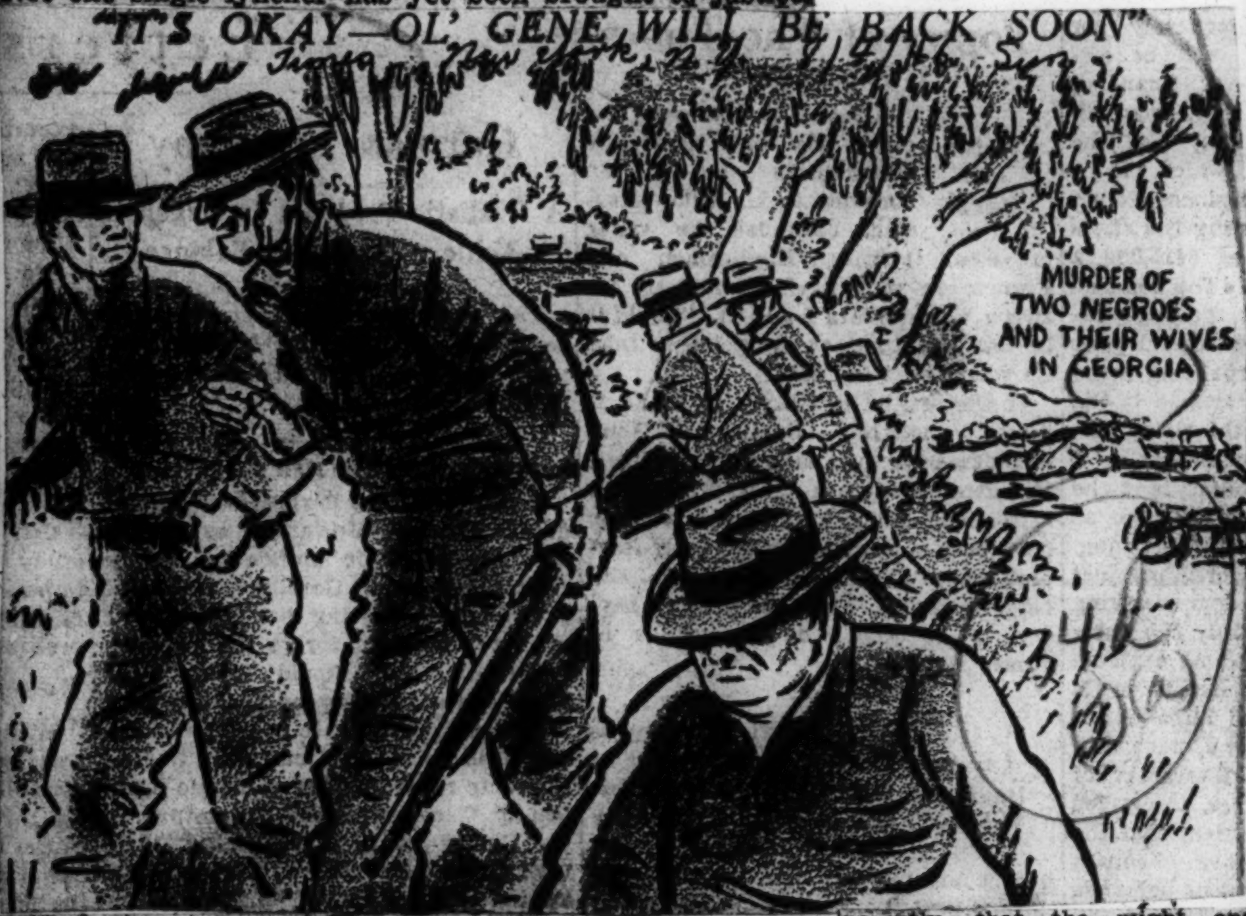
mob. The mutilated veteran's head had been struck repeatedly and his hands were severed by a cleaver.

"The excessive heat and beatings caused his eyes to pop from their sockets. Jones was of light yellow complexion, but when his body was found his face was charred black."

The government's silence encourages further and greater violence, and thus it becomes an actual accomplice. Not one single lyncher has yet been brought to justice.

"IT'S OKAY—OL' GENE WILL BE BACK SOON"

Times New York, N.Y. 8/4/46 Sun.


MURDER OF TWO NEGROES AND THEIR WIVES IN GEORGIA

34 (2a)

CIVIL RIGHTS STATUTES FAIL IN LYNCHING CASES

Times New York, N.Y.

Record Holds Little Hope of Success In Current Federal Intervention

Sun. 8/4/46

By CABELL PHILLIPS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3—With whatever good intentions Attorney General Tom Clark announced the entry of the Department of Justice into the investigation of the recent lynchings in Georgia and Mississippi, it is unlikely that any man in the country is more cognizant than he of the futility of his gesture.

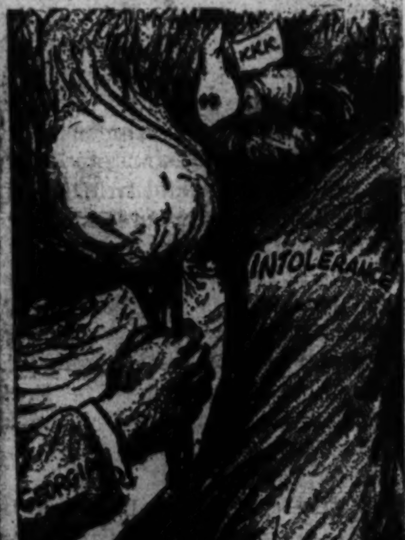
The constitutional Bill of Rights and the Federal Civil Rights statutes, in the opinion of most Government attorneys, are splendid symbols of a free democracy, but winning a case on them in a court of law is quite something else again. Experience over the last forty years has shown that the authority of the Federal Government to defend what are popularly assumed to be the "inalienable rights" of individual American citizens is so limited as to be, in many instances, negligible.

And in no category of offenses is this more true than in lynching. There never has been a successful Federal prosecution of lynching, per se.

(2a)

Outrages against minority groups nearly always result in demands upon Washington that the Federal Government "take a hand." There is a popular supposition, apparently, that the might and majesty of the National Government can be invoked whenever State or local officials prove

"FLAME IN GEORGIA"



Hutton in The Philadelphia Inquirer

lict. Such demands nearly always end in disappointment.

There are three fundamental reasons why this is so:

(1) With only a few exceptions, all guarantees in the Constitution and Federal law relating to civil rights are directed solely against encroachments by the Federal Government. 8-4-46 Sun.

(2) Narrow construction of these provisions by the courts has repeatedly thwarted efforts to widen their application.

(3) Regional prejudices and traditions, as evidenced by courts and juries even under Federal jurisdiction, more often than not are powerful enough to negate the clear intention of the law.

Constitutional Guarantees

The guarantees of civil rights under the Constitution are contained in the first ten amendments, the so-called Bill of Rights, which enunciate such familiar principles as freedom of speech, press, religion, trial by jury, etc., and the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth, which freed the slaves, gave them citizenship and the right of franchise. The first ten amendments are directed entirely at encroachments by the Federal Government. Encroachments by State or local governments, or by individuals, are not proscribed under the Constitution and hence cannot be punished by the Federal Government.

The Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments, however, are directed at encroachments by State governments. Moreover, in the beginning they were buttressed affirmatively by the civil rights statutes making their violation a criminal offense. But so vast an extension of Federal power drew the ire of States' rights advocates, and a campaign of attrition was started in the courts and in Congress. The three amendments have, over the years, been rendered largely inoperative and the statutes which supported them have been emasculated.

An Official Comments

A Department of Justice official observed recently, in connection with the widespread protest over the Georgia lynching case:

"Most people seem unaware that the underlying conception of the Federal Government as one of delegate powers operating against a background of reserved States' rights leaves the Federal Constitution largely unconcerned with the social and governmental situations which give rise to civil liberties problems.

"The label 'civil liberties' sometimes raises but never answers the question whether a particular offense comes within the protection of the Constitution."

Most civil rights violations which attract the attention of the department are those concerned with the right to vote, peonage and involuntary servitude, and denials of the due processes of the law. In this latter category come the familar instances of police brutality and lynching. In all of these offenses Federal prosecutors are faced with the obligation of proving that some right specifically within the purview of the Constitution or Federal law has been violated. 8-4-46 Sun.

This is often difficult. For most offenses reliance must be had on two "catch-all" statutes which, in actual practice over the years, have missed more culprits than they have caught. These are Sections 51 and 52, Title 18, of the Criminal Code.

The first is applicable only if a conspiracy has been committed. The second is applicable to officers of a State or local government "acting under the color of law." The use of force or intimidation to deny to Negroes the right to vote is typical of the sort of case prosecuted under Section 51. A sheriff who permits a mob to take a prisoner away from him to be lynched might be prosecuted under Section 52.

Penalties Seldom Enforced

While conviction under 51 carries a maximum penalty of ten years' imprisonment and a fine of $5,000, the maximum under 52 is only one year and $1,000. Even these relatively light penalties are seldom enforced. Often when after the most laborious spade work Federal prosecutors have developed what appeared to be an air-tight case involving the denial of a constitutional right, juries have failed to convict. Deeply ingrained local prejudices are not altered by the fact that the jury is sitting under Federal rather than local authority.

Department officials are hopeful that FBI investigators in Georgia and Mississippi will turn up a "peg" which will support their intervention in the lynching cases. But they are pretty certain that even should this come to pass their chances of developing a successful prosecution are remote. As the law stands today, there is little to distinguish legally between a twenty-man murder and a one-man murder.

Lynchings Wipe Out Racial Gains

Daily News Washington, D.C.

Both white and Negro leaders say the recent lynchings in Georgia and Mississippi have erased many wartime gains in race relations.

34d (2a)

Tuskegee Institute says some 4800 persons have been lynched in the United States since 1882, the first year that records were kept. This is an average of over 75 a year, or more than one a week over a 64-year period.

Of the total, 3500 were Negroes, most of whom were in the South. There are no records of lynchings in the District of Columbia, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Two lynchings are recorded in New York and eight in Pennsylvania.

Mississippi has a record of 543 lynchings; Georgia, 525; Texas, 489, while other Southern states range from Maryland's 29 to Louisiana's 390. The Southern states are guilty of 82 per cent of all lynchings in the United States.

INDEX TO MIND Fri 8-16-46

Writers offer varied opinions on the causes of lynchings, but many believe there is a definate relationship between cotton and lynchings. When cotton prices are low in the cotton raising states, there has always been an increase of lynchings. The largest number of lynchings in any one year was in 1901, when 130 persons were killed. This was a poor cotton year.

In 1944, only two lynchings were recorded. Public opinion and threats of Federal legislation brought about the reduction. Lynchings also showed great increases immediately following wars and in periods of great economic stress.

One writer has said, "A decline in the cotton growers' income is an acute index to his state of mind—that state of mind out of which comes the tendency to lynch."

34d(2)(a)1946 Georgia

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Dennis Hits Georgia-U. S. Buckpassing, Calls for Big Mass Meeting Today

Daily Worker - Wed. 7-31-46 New York, N.Y.

34d(2)(a)

(2a)

Charging that the officials of Walton County in Georgia, were part of the lynching conspiracy, Eugene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party, yesterday urged support of the anti-lynching demonstration in Madison Square Park at 5 p.m. today.

Dennis declared that Georgia and the federal government were passing the buck back and forth between them, refusing to act against the lynchers. His statement follows:

The Georgia authorities throw up their hand in mock despair and claim they "cannot cope with the situation" in Monroe, Ga. They plead inability to identify the 20 well-known men who last Thursday lynched four Negroes, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Malcolm and Mr. and Mrs. George Dorsey.

But everyone in Monroe knows who these men were. The officials of Monroe were part of the conspiracy. They organized this lynching.

And while Georgia takes this "hopeless" attitude the federal government says "it is apparently a state matter."

The buck passes back and forth, and meanwhile there is no action. The lynchers go free. The Bilbos and the Talmadges, bearing moral responsibility for this crime through their incitements, gloat. The state and federal governments conspire to condone this crime.

The people of New York should pour out in their tens of thousands at 5 p.m. today to Madison Square Park, to condemn our government's smug complacency, if not complicity, in the mass murder of the Negro people.

The demonstration called by the Civil Rights Congress of New York and the National Negro Congress must be made a powerful expression of the demand of the people of New York for real action, for:

Wed. 7-31-46

Death to the lynchers!

Indict and prosecute Talmadge!

Ousting of Bilbo from the Senate!

Immediate arrest and the death penalty for every one of the criminals of Monroe who are responsible for this crime.

New York. N.Y

Murderous white supremacy theories and policies are gaining ground in New York. The Freeport murders, the mass terrorization of Negro communities in connection with the so-called "Logan case," the brutal beatings of dozens of innocent Negro citizens by New York's police.

All these are more than danger signals. They are part of the reactionary offensive of imperialist reaction..

In attacking the Negro people the pro-fascists are attacking all the people and democracy everywhere.

Rally against the lynchers and pro-fascists!

All out to Madison Square Park, 5 p.m. Wednesday, July 31!

Get the Lynchers!

(Reprinted from late edition of yesterday's Worker.)

34d(2)(a)

AN EDITORIAL

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Three days have gone by since KKK lynch murder in Walton County, Georgia, took four victims—two Negro couples, one of the men a recently returned veteran. Mon. 7-29-46 (2a)

Yet, Washington—the Truman administration, the FBI—has done nothing.

The same Attorney General Tom Clark who in Chicago recently called for a man-hunt against progressives and Communists, sits idly by. He does nothing to apprehend the killers.

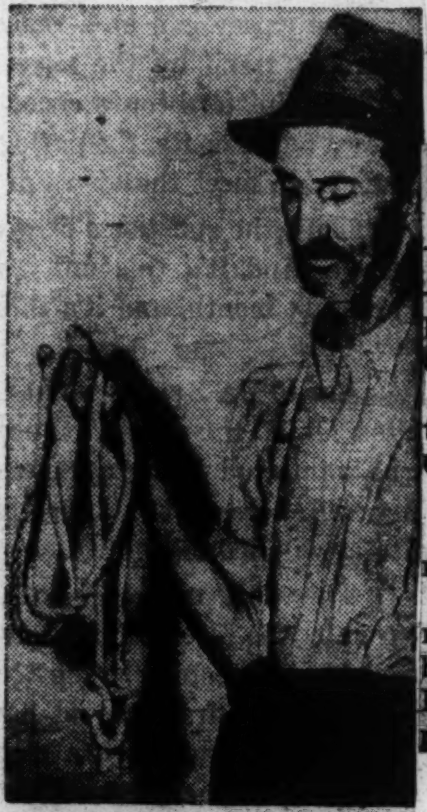
His spokesman, Assistant U.S. Attorney Jack Gautier, arriving at the scene of the massacre, mildly asserts:

"So far it seems to be a state case."

This is infamous. Washington preaches democracy to Poland. But Polish democracy *hangs* its lynchers.

Washington inaction bespeaks not only indifference to the wave of fascist-like murder rising with the triumph of the Talmadge gang.

It raises the suspicion of downright collusion with the Negro-hating savagery which is bringing Hitlerism to America—and fast! Freeport, Columbia, gouging out GI Woodward's eyes—this is the pattern of an advancing Hitlerism.



Farmer holds rope that bound hands of one of the victims.

This paper has urged President Truman to act. It repeats that demand now. It asks the nation to do likewise.

Daily Worker

We urge every American regardless of creed to unite behind these demands:

- The federal government must step in to halt the terrorism launched by Talmadge and his behind-the-scenes backers in the big Georgia corporations.
- The federal government must GET THAT MOB OF KILLERS and bring them to swift justice befitting murderers. Death to the lynchers!
- The Negro people must be *armed and deputized* in large numbers, together with whites who will fight the lynchers.

Monday 7-29-46

Gov. Arnall has the power and the duty to ARM AND DEPUTIZE NEGRO CITIZENS to defend themselves against KKK killers.

We appeal to every city and community to hold protest meetings to support these demands.

Make no mistake about it! Fascism is arriving for the 14,000,000 American Negro citizens.

If it is not smashed here, it will engulf the entire nation.

7-29-46

Lynch terror against our Negro fellow-Americans will be to the U.S.A. what the anti-Jewish pogroms were to Germany—the open door to fascism.

ACT!

Unpunished Murderers

IT IS more than a month since America was aroused by one of the most bestial mass murders in the nation's history, the lynching of two young Negro couples in Georgia.

34d(2)(a)

There have been several other lynchings since that time, unquestionably stimulated by the fact that the Georgia lynchers were left unpunished.

These killers still remain at large.

How long must we wait before the federal government acts to bring these murderers to justice?

It is up to the people throughout the nation to demand that the administration see that every lyncher is brought to justice and that those who, like the Kluxers Bilbo and Talmadge, incite and protect lynchers, are deprived of all positions of power.

Washington Ducks Georgia Crimes

Daily Worker Wed-7-31-46 34d(2)(a) (2a) New York, N.Y.

President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark yesterday issued milk-and-water statements about investigating "all crimes of oppression." Even these mild statements came only in response to the nation-wide storm of protests against the Georgia lynchings. These protests included the largest open air rally in the history of Washington. Clark disclosed he had discussed the massacre with the President who "expressed to me his horror at the crime and his sympathy for the families of the victims." The attorney general said the full facilities of the FBI were being used in the Georgia investigation and "we hope for an early solution of these shocking murders."

"The entire record of our investigation will be made available to the governor of Georgia, if necessary, for proper action of Georgia civil authorities," he said.

Clark announced an investigation was proceeding "to ascertain if any federal statute can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals." Wed. 7-31-46

It was felt Clark was trying to throw all responsibility upon the Georgia state administration, instead of the Federal government taking vigorous steps to bring the criminals to bar.

10,000 AT RALLY

In Washington, 10,000 attended a mass meeting Monday night at 10 and U Sts., sponsored by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

The meeting tied up traffic for more than two hours while it was addressed by Charles A. Collins, Negro Assembly candidate from New York; Max Yergan of the National Negro Congress; Charles Hill, business agent of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers' Union, and John Anderson White, of the Southern Conference. New York

The rally called upon Congress to refuse to seat Bilbo. It also called upon the Department of Justice to prosecute Bilbo and Talmadge for their encouragement to southern lynchers, and demanded passage of the anti-lynching bill.

DETROIT UNIONS ACT N.Y.

Unions in Detroit, representing 110,000 workers, sent telegrams to Clark demanding a full federal investigation. The executive board of Ford Local 600 called for a full investigation by the FBI, including a probe of Talmadge's connections with the KKK.

The National Negro Congress, at its national board meeting in Detroit, called upon all organizations to demand a full investigation and no whitewash.

The Philadelphia NAACP called on local groups to join in observing Friday as a day of mourning for the Georgia victims.

Philadelphia stores are asked to close between 1 and 2 p.m. in the Negro neighborhoods, with mourning placards in windows. All citizens are asked to wear mourning bands or black lapel ribbons.

Groups of mourning pickets will mark the day of protest. Radio stations are asked to observe a half moment of silence. Workers in the shops are asked to observe a one-minute silence, or hold brief services. Wednesday

The Communist Party in Philadelphia announced its support for the day of mourning. It also announced it is organizing additional demonstrations and called on all section and club leaders to report to Party headquarters immediately.

Telegrams continue to demand that Truman send federal troops into Georgia, and that Negroes there be deputized for their protection.

Signing telegrams were: James Price, business agent of Westinghouse Local 107, Electrical Workers; Magistrate Joseph Rainey, Local NAACP president; Donald Henderson, president of the CIO Food and Tobacco Workers; E. Washington Rhodes, editor of the *Philadelphia Tribune*; David Davis, business agent Local 155, CIO Electrical Workers; W. A. Brower, editor of the Philadelphia *Afro-American*; Ralph Jones, editor of the Philadelphia *Independent*; Arthur Huff Fausett, chairman of the United Peoples Action Committee and Michael Harris, CIO council president. 7-31-46

The Pittsburgh district of the UE-CIO dispatched telegrams to Truman and Clark demanding federal troops arrest the lynchers.

In New York, dozens of organizations and leaders demanded federal action. Telegrams and resolutions were sent to Washington from the American Youth for Democracy, the American Jewish Labor Council, the New York Committee for Justice In Freeport, the International Workers Order, Ben Gold, president of the Furriers Union, the Office Workers Union's New York Regional Council, and the NAACP.

The New York CIO Council has called upon all its members to participate in the Madison Square Park rally at 5 p.m. today. N.Y.

UNAVA Sets Action Example As It Brings Lynch Facts to People

Daily Worker. New York, N.Y.

34d(2)(a) Mon 8-9-46

By John Hudson Jones

The United Negro and Allied Veterans was the first organization to get out on the streets immediately after the Georgia lynchings to protest the growing anti-Negro terror wave. The Saturday following the lynchings UNAVA had scheduled several housing demonstrations but these were turned into anti-lynch meetings where thousands of Negro and white people were given the facts of the lynchings and told how they were incited by Bilbo and Talmadge.

Sensing a city-wide movement was necessary to fight anti-Negro feeling right here in New York City, UNAVA sponsored a full week of sound-truck street corner meetings, where many of its leaders and other prominent community and political leaders spoke.

These meetings were not confined to Harlem and about 100,000 people were secured on petitions to President Truman and Attorney General Clark demanding their action in the lynchings. 50,000 leaflets were distributed, and more than 300 veterans joined UNAVA.

Bertram Alves, regional director told the Daily Worker yesterday, **"We feel that the time is over for defensive fighting. In Europe and the Pacific we learned the value of hitting the hardest first, in the enemy's weakest spot. We were fighting fascists then and we're still fighting them. The same thing goes. From now on UNAVA is on the lookout for all fascists, bigots, and labor baiters."** Mon 8-9-46

At one of the Brooklyn meetings a police riot squad attempted to disperse the crowds but failed and the speakers continued.

Last week, city-wide sound truck meetings were a part of a continuous program of struggle for Negro rights, particularly among veterans, and will extend into every area where reaction is stepping on the necks of Negroes and other minorities.

DETROITERS PROTEST

Special to the Daily Worker

Mon 8-9-46

Four hundred Negro and White men and women gathered at a protest rally in Detroit Friday and demanded a stop to the terror spreading throughout the South against the Negro people.

The rally was held in the Hartford Avenue Baptist Church last Friday demanded that the federal and state governments take action against the lynchers, that the KKK be outlawed and that a federal anti-lynch law be passed.

HARLEM ASKS ACTION

Special to the Daily Worker

Arrest and prosecution of the Georgia lynchers was demanded by hundreds of Harlem residents at a street meeting sponsored by the Lincoln Douglass Club of the Communist Party Saturday night.

The audience overflowed from the corner of 125 St. and Lenox Ave. until the traffic isles down the center of the avenue were jammed.

Club members sold 100 copies of Saturday's Daily Worker, 95 copies of Sunday's The Worker, 37 copies of A. B. Magil's pamphlet **Socialism—What's In It For You?** and obtained hundreds of signatures, accompanied by donations, on petitions and telegrams to President Truman and Attorney General Clark.

34d(3)(a)

PROBE SOUGHT

Special to the Daily Worker

Daily Worker

The Fort Wayne, (Ind.) CIO this week protested the recent lynchings of Negroes in Georgia and demanded immediate justice. New York, N.Y.

In wires to President Truman, Attorney General Tom Clark and Gov. Ellis Arnall of Georgia, the city CIO council called for an investigation and prosecution. Frank J. Watson, the council's secretary-treasurer, said: Mon 8-9-46

"Our country is a free country. Free for whom? The KKK ashamed to show their faces in public, or the people who fought to make this country free?"

Union Condemns Georgia Lynchings

Daily Worker

Camden, N. J.

Editor, Daily Worker:

The following letter was sent to President Truman by our local: 8-3-46

"The outrageous murder of the four Negroes in Georgia is the most alarming fascist development in our nation. 34d(2)(a)

"Local 80, FTA-CIO, represent[redacted] Camden- [redacted] half of our membership [redacted] demand that those responsible [redacted] caught and [redacted] direct outcome of the primary election victory of Talmadge, whose Nazi speeches are directly responsible for this crime. Thurs.

"We urge you to use all the resources of your office to see that the criminals are apprehended."

HERBERT KLING,
President New York
Business Agent. N.Y.
ANTHONY VALENTINO

34d(2)(a) 1946 Georgia

7296

Sound the Alarm

Daily Worker Tues. 7-30-46
New York, N.Y.

34d(2)(a)

LYNCH cries were heard in New York City itself over this weekend.

A Queens mob shouted to the police who had arrested a Negro. "Give him to us! We'll take care of him!" So far has the anti-Negro incitement advanced already.

In Nassau County, Long Island, a dastardly crime was committed. A "starey-eyed Negro" is accused. Police have thrown a terrorist dragnet over Negro communities in the North, intimidating Negroes everywhere.

This is supposed to be a "natural" method for apprehending the criminal. It is in reality a political act of brutal discrimination against the entire Negro community.

It is using the crime as an excuse to fasten still tighter the lid of oppression and discrimination on the Negroes.

The Georgia massacre spreads its message of terrorism.

So does Columbia, Tennessee. So does the Freeport whitewash engineered by Gov. Dewey. The Nassau manhunt has been used to bury the Freeport slaying of two Negro brothers.

Meanwhile, President Truman is silent. Not a single daily newspaper EXCEPT THE DAILY WORKER has called for the arrest of the Georgia killers and their execution, for the arming and deputizing of the Negro people in defense against murderers. The press "regrets." But it lets it go at that.

This wave of anti-Negro hysteria and violence is being organized. Don't forget that. It isn't just happening. It is aimed at dividing the country, stifling democracy, and spreading the same kind of violence against the Jewish people, against progressives, trade unionists, and against Communists. It is part of the plan of advancing fascism.

Fight this thing at every step. Nail all anti-Negro propaganda wherever you hear it. Show where it comes from, what it spells for democratic liberties.

And organize to get Federal and local action against all lynchers and fomenters of the lynch spirit.

Crisis in Race Relations

Times New York, N.Y.
Wed. 8-7-46

Recent Events Are Called a Challenge to Those Who Oppose Discrimination

34d(2)(a)

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

The report of the shooting down, in cold blood, of four Negroes in the State of Georgia presents a challenge to every decent American. Coming so soon upon the terror that broke out in Columbia, Tenn., several months ago, and the rebirth and bid for power of the Ku Klux Klan, it is indicative of a condition which threatens to become a pattern of terror and repression in these years after the war, unless we take swift action to bring to book the perpetrators of this outrage.

The implications of this [illegible] upon our so-called civilization go far deeper than is apparent from surface indications. The time is come when we should face, squarely and honestly, the whole question of race prejudice not only in the South but in every other section of this country. Wed. 8-7-46

White America, on the whole, has a record of bad faith, ignorance and cruelty toward the Negro. It is a record which places us in a ridiculous light when preaching pious platitudes to other nations in connection with their treatment of minority groups.

If we are to avoid tragedy, then we must face this serious racial crisis in our American life with a frankness and honesty which heretofore have been missing from our consideration of the whole field of racial prejudice. The problem which confronts us is not a Negro problem but rather a white one. The responsibility for the whole disgraceful history of race relations in this country is the responsibility of the white man suffering from the deep-rooted satisfaction which he has derived from worshiping his own skin-color.

The affront to human dignity resulting from race discrimination, with all its brutal impact, is the blow which cuts so deeply. The whole effect of discrimination, on those who advocate it and on those who are its victims, is degrading. The Negro's conduct, his personality, his culture, his entire way of life flow naturally out of conditions imposed upon him by White America. In the face of difficulties which must seem oppressive, these people have managed, somehow, to make countless noteworthy contributions to the arts, to literature and to science. It is a tribute to their greatness.

By all means let us apprehend and punish for murder the fiends who perpetrated this latest outrage. But let us not delude ourselves into thinking that by so doing we have solved the problem.

JOHN J. DUFF.

New York, Aug. 1, 1946.

34d(2)(a)1946

Ga.

7297

The Georgia Murders

P.M. Mon 8-5-46 New York N.Y.

To the Editor:

On an international level, the United States has endorsed in theory the formation of a World Government to which the sovereignty of all nations would be subservient. Within our own country, we do not deem it politic for the Federal Government to intervene in a case of mass murder in Georgia because "no civil liberties were violated" and this would constitute "interfering with States' rights." There seems to exist in Washington a feeling that what appears feasible on a world scale, just "isn't done" in the United States.

Carrying this analogy to its logical conclusion, and assuming the World Government to be functioning, suppose this body overruled our Federal Government by deciding that this case did violate civil liberties, and felt that certain racist tendencies in our South were being carried too far and constituted a menace—would the states which will brook no interference from our own Government in Washington tolerate for one minute this "foreign" interference? Mon 8-5-46

Until our states learn to live under the jurisdiction of one Federal Government, it seems futile for the United States to pretend that it could subjugate itself in any way to a World Government which would have the authority to interfere not only with "States' rights" but with "Nations' rights" as well.

EVE JUDITH ROBINSON

Wilmington, Del.

• • Mon 8-5-46

There are subtle forces at work behind lynchings, forces beyond the individual. I am referring to the prejudices of large segments of populations, without which these crimes would be impossible.

A study of prejudice leads to the following facts:

¶ Meaning of prejudice: to dislike *without reason.*

¶ "Reasons" given for prejudice (which, of course, by the very definition of prejudice, do not exist in reality) are believed because there is an inherent necessity to do so. Example: "Negroes are criminals," though a lie in fact, is believed by prejudiced people to be true because it helps satisfy their conscience to hate. As long as the prejudice exists, it is impossible to disprove the lie. Prejudiced people *want* to believe falsehoods concerning their object of prejudice.

¶ Prejudices are acquired (little children know no prejudice).

¶ Though without intelligence or reason, prejudices have *causes.* Example: A little child is told by its mother: "You stay away from them 'n-rs'!" This enters the child's subconscious, creates a dislike or hate, which in later years can not rationally be explained by the child. Thus, this child hates or dislikes Negroes *without reason, because* of its mother's bad influence.

¶ The main causes of prejudices are: (A) Economic greed or exploitation which depends on prejudice (divide and rule), and thus artifically creates prejudice by propaganda (official and unofficial); (B) Poverty which creates the bitter, hateful ground necessary for prejudice; (C) War, which creates the artificial animosities necessary for prejudice; (D) Other influences such as poor education, family and neighbor prejudices carried down.

In this atomic era, when mankind stands on the brink of Death itself, I know of no greater force than this moral leprosy of prejudice which will inevitably bring man into the abyss.

New York Mon 8-5-46 CARL COLODNE

• • •

A slight illness having forced idleness upon me, I have just heard the broadcast over WNYC of the *World Faiths Round Table* at Town Hall. This was the third of such Round Tables. Judaism and Islam having been considered, the agenda had today reached its peak—Christianity. The chairman spoke of our "glorious tradition" and of the debt we owe our founding fathers. She then presented a leading exponent of Christianity. For forty-five minutes the minister carried on from there.

The distinguished divine deplored joyriders who carelessly take life on our highways, he spoke with regret of atomic bombs, but the shocking lynching of a soldier and his three companions which today bows our land with shame aroused neither his condemnation nor his concern.

My only son is on his way home. He's been in the army three years though the only real duty he's seen this last year was strike-breaking in the Philippine Islands. You see, he's a Negro soldier, and I'm lying here wondering if, having come through the bullets and shells and swords of "savage," "heathenish," "ape-like" little Japanese he will escape bullets, ropes and burning oil here in his Christian homeland. I'm milling over the thought that in the most benighted jungles of the earth soldiers walk with dignity and honor. Perhaps from among them might come a few missionaries to save us!

New York Mon 8-5-46 SHIRLEY GRAHAM

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(AN OPEN LETTER)

To the President of
the United States:

Dear Mr. President:

I wish to take these few moments, as something is bearing on my mind and tearing at my heart. I wonder if the war was false in principles. The Four Freedoms, for all mankind; true democracy to all the world; lastly, our great nation would be the arsenal, and the storehouse for all nations fighting for our cause.

I cannot see how we can be capable to telling the rest of the world how to live, when atrocities such as lynching and mob violence exist in our country. We cannot stop minorities from being oppressed in other parts of the world when discrimination and segregation prevail in such a great proportion here. Could other nations have much faith in our doctrines when we do not live up to them or will not seek to enforce the law?

Mr. President, I saw many boys in the ETO, dying for the Atlantic Charter. The machine guns, and 88's knew no race, color, or creed. They were broad-minded. They took any mother's son. Theirs were more justifiable than the killing of four Negroes in Monroe, Ga., by a mob.

We owe it to our dead—that we did not fight in vain. We owe it to the rest of the world watching our techniques of democracy in action. We will lose faith with all nations and peoples if we fail to bring these mobsters to justice and let them go unpunished. If we fail now we have failed world peace and should prepare for war and the destruction of mankind.

Let's be Americans, with American ideas. Mon 8-5-46

CHARLES H. JONES,

New York W. W. II. Vet

Lynching Protests Issued Here

New York Times

Protests concerning the Georgia lynchings were issued here yesterday by the New York City Chapter of the Methodist Federation for Social Service, the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions and Ben Gold, president of the International Fur and Leather Workers, CIO.

TERROR IN AMERICA

New York Times

Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia is not one of those narrow defenders of State's rights who maintain that no "outsider" has any business to intervene when terror and violence sweep their communities. Governor Arnall has telegraphed President Truman his warm appreciation of "the full cooperation of the Federal Government, the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in assisting State and local authorities to apprehend the desperadoes who lynched four Negroes in Walton County, Ga., on July 25." We believe he and other Governors, North and South, should also welcome the action of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice in investigating the activities of the Ku Klux Klan. 8-2-46

It is not easy to draw the line between State and Federal authority. A murder not involving the crossing of a State line is not often a case for Federal action. But a lynching is not merely a murder. It may mean the breakdown of orderly processes of law in a community. In Walton County it has obviously meant the terrorization of innocent persons, both Negro and white. Major W. E. Spence of the Georgia State Bureau of Investigation, indirectly testifies as much when he posts handbills giving assurance that the identity of those giving information will "be kept confidential." And this situation is not solely a cause of concern to the law-abiding majority in Georgia. It concerns all of us.

New York N.Y.

A Federal anti-lynching law may not be the solution. But if we think of lynching as the tragic crescendo of a chronic denial of civil rights the case for Federal legislation may be stronger. We may hope for better race relations—better human relations—in Georgia as well as in Michigan, California and elsewhere. But if small and vicious minorities defeat this hope a vigorous and concerted attack on the problem will have to be made by the Federal Government and the States alike.

What YOU Can Do About It

Daily Worker 7-31-46

The Daily Worker calls upon all decent Americans to raise all the pressure they can to:

- **Get the federal government to stop the reign of terror launched by Eugene Talmadge and his backers in Georgia.** New York.
- **Demand the authorities GET THE MOB THAT COMMITTED THE MASSACRE.** N.Y.
- **Tell Gov. Arnall of Georgia to arm and deputize the Negroes and law-abiding whites to keep the peace.** Wed. 7-31-46

Messages should be sent to President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark in Washington, and Gov. Ellis Arnall in Atlanta, Ga.

POLLTAX VIRGINIA protests to President Truman to "stop the savage Georgia Klan Killers." The Communist Party, in an open letter to the President which it distributed in 100,000 copies, charged that the "murder that stalks America" is being caused by the fact that the Negro people "are getting off their knees." It asks all Virginians, including churches, ministers, educators and unionists, to wire Truman demanding federal action against the Georgia killers. Tue. 8-6-46

'Judge Lynch' in Georgia

The year 1892 has been called by some the most shameful in American history. "Judge Lynch" ruled in many places; 231 persons died violently at the hands of lynching mobs. Since that peak year the annual toll has gradually declined, although the total stands at the figure of more than 4,700 (over 3,400 of the victims Negroes). In the last six calendar years sporadic outbreaks of the crime have claimed twenty victims, all Negroes and all in the South. The decline led many to hope that the practice of lynching, the most violent manifestation of the South's social and racial problem, was yielding to education in tolerance, that respect was growing for the Fourteenth Amendment which states that no person may be deprived of "life, liberty or property without due process of law."

New York, N.Y.

Murder on the Road

Times

But last week "Judge Lynch" ruled again in Georgia. On a lonely swamp road near Monroe last Thursday evening a mob of twenty men stopped the car of a white man, Loy Harrison, forced two married Negro couples to get out of the car and murdered them with three volleys from rifles, shotguns and pistols.

One of the Negroes was farmhand Roger Malcolm, who had been jailed two weeks before on the charge of stabbing a white man. Mr. Harrison, a prosperous farmer, had just arranged his release under bond and was taking the four workers to his farm when the lynchers intercepted. One of the mob pointed a gun at Mr. Harrison while the lynchers cut the Negroes down. Later that evening a coroner's jury declared that the Negroes had met their death at the hands of "unknown persons." Repercussions from the lynching went far afield from Monroe. In Washington the Department of Justice began a special inquiry. Many Negro leaders asserted that lynchings were encouraged by the present political campaign of 'white supremacy' in Georgia and by the recent recrudescence of Ku Klux Klan activities.

"WHITE SUPREMACY" IN GEORGIA

Times

Two weeks ago a white man was stabbed in Georgia. He is still alive in a hospital, but some of his fellow-whites in the South have been brooding over his case. Twenty of them decided the other evening that the white man's honor and the cause of justice needed bolstering. They did not bother to mask their faces. They merely got their guns, lined up two Negroes and their wives, and fired.

One of the four assassinated had just been released on bond on charges of stabbing his employer. Another had just returned safely from five years of service as a soldier of the United States, some of it in Africa and the Pacific. He had survived the hazards of war, defending his country against barbaric enemies, but fell before the bigoted hatred of neighbors led by a "dignified" white man. The two women ruthlessly shot down had committed no fault that appears in the record, except that of being present. One of them recognized a member of the white mob, and called him by name. This was enough; she and her companion were too dangerous to live. 7.8.46

Decent white people everywhere feel a heartsick sense of shame over this ugly event beside a lonely side road northeast of Atlanta. Are we indeed the race that the gallused Talmadge so recently proclaimed "supreme" as he promised to take steps to "keep the Negro in his place"? Those who preach hatred and denial of the rights of man—in any State, North or South—might ask what is their responsibility when something like this happens, and sixty bullets loosed at close range show the Negro his "place" in American life. The score for Georgia since 1882 now stands at 525 lynchings. She is second only to Mississippi in execution without trial. Governor Arnall leaves no doubt of his indignation over the murders in Walton County. He rightly says that "civilized people everywhere" will be watching to see what happens now. All of us, North and South, stand condemned before this outrage and share with Georgia's great majority of decent and lawabiding people the humiliation of this disgrace.

Sunday 7-28-46

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 1, 1946

Monroe's Courage

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

THE MEMBERS of the First Methodist Church of Monroe, Ga., have condemned the lynching of four Negroes near there on July 25 as an "outrage against humanity," called on the law-enforcement authorities to bring the guilty to justice, and pledged their co-operation. Their act is courageous, it is just, and it is the kind of act which alone will really stamp out lynching.

34.d(2)(a)

The reason lynching persists in the South is that the cowards who hide in the anonymity of the mass know they will be protected. They know the law-enforcement officers will not arrest them, or that, if they do, the law-abiding citizens will not sit as jurors and convict them. They feel that they are protected by the *mores* of their community—and they are usually right about it. (2)(a)

In Monroe, it seems, they are wrong. There are law-abiding citizens in Monroe to whom murder by lynching is no less heinous a crime than murder in any other fashion. They have denounced the *mores* by which mob murder is tacitly condoned and mob murderers are hidden from justice.

By offering their co-operation in tracking down the murderers, they are building up a new custom toward lynching—a custom of decency and humanity, enforced by law upon those who are not by their own choice decent and humane. We hope there will be thousands more like the members of the First Methodist Church of Monroe. If they come forward, the people of the United States will at last see a cleansing from their land of the black and ugly blot of lynch law.

The Nation New York, N.Y. Sat. 8-31-46

NINE NEGROES HAVE BEEN LYNCHED IN the last two months, in outbreaks of that inter-racial violence that is the most barbarous and shameful feature of American life. No one has been punished for these lynchings; it is not likely that anyone ever will be, if local authorities and local sentiment have their way. If local authorities won't act, the federal government must; but the improved civil-liberties laws that would enable it to act with real effectiveness have little chance to get through Congress, owing to the antiquated and unfortunate system that has put Southern reactionaries in control of most committees, and that gives a minority of Senators the power to block any legislation by filibustering. Senator Johnson has just resigned, in disgust at its inaction, from the special committee investigating campaign expenditures; two of its remaining members have been goaded into stating that they consider charges against Senator Bilbo extremely serious. It will be educational to see what they do about the charges. Men like Bilbo and Talmadge have done everything in their power to make Southerners feel that race violence is not only right but expedient; Bilbo has openly and repeatedly advocated that Negroes be kept from the polls by force or intimidation, and has just crowned his long, deplorable, incredible career by a spirited and heartfelt defense of the Ku Klux Klan: "The Klan has always stood for the American flag, constitutional government, and the American way of life." Senator Bilbo, at home, is a shrewd politician; his evident belief that his constituents will agree with his statement is more disquieting than the statement. But the most disquieting thing of all is the probability that this man will continue to represent—or should one say disgrace?—the American flag, constitutional government, and the American way of life.

34d(2)(e) 34d(2)(e) Sat 8-31-46

The Nation New York, N.Y.

"LYNCHINGS," SAYS *LIFE* IN THE COURSE OF a rather complacent editorial about Southern progress in its current issue, "have declined almost to the vanishing point." But while the magazine was being distributed news came from Georgia of one of the most ghastly lynchings in history. A young Negro, out on bail on a charge of wounding his employer, another colored farmhand, and the wives of the two men, were seized and shot by a large gang of whites—the women, apparently, solely because an assassin thought one of them had recognized him. This was no hot-blooded, impulsive crime; it was cold, deliberate murder. "It looks like it was a rehearsed affair," said Major William F. Spence, Chief of the Georgia State Police, after his preliminary investigation. The old desire "to teach the niggers their place," stirred up by Gene Talmadge's inflammatory campaign for governor on the issue of "white supremacy," was, perhaps, the chief motive. Governor Arnall, who promptly offered large rewards for information about the murderers, has ordered Major Spence to stay on the job until they are arrested. Attorney General Clark has instructed the FBI to carry out an inquiry. Yet it is probable that this crime will go unpunished like so many others of the same kind. For lynching is a community crime, and the criminals are protected by the fears and prejudices of their fellow citizens. Major Spence has stated that, in the present case: "The best people [sic] in town won't talk about this; they have an idea who it is." He added that he was getting no cooperation from the local authorities. Once again bloody emphasis has been given to the need for Federal legislation against mob violence.

34d(2)(a) 34d(2)(a) Sat 8-3-46 Sat 8-3-46

Harlem Ready to Fight Back at Lynchers

Daily Worker Tues. 7-30-46

By John Hudson Jones

I took a Daily Worker with the big headline, FOUR LYNCHED IN GEORGIA, and pinned it on the front of my chest and started walking on Eighth Ave. and 110 St.

People told me that they were mad because they knew that war had been declared on them and their people in the South. They felt like they had been backed up against a wall and were ready, willing and able to fight back.

"What to think about it?", I asked two women shopping at a vegetable stand. New York

"When I heard it on the radio last night, I told my husband that the Negroes in Georgia ought to get out every old gun and pitchfork they had and give 'em back the same medicine." N.Y.

GOT TO STOP RUNNING

The second lady agreed, "We got to fight 'em back. We got to stop running."

By this time a little crowd of people were inspecting the paper on my chest and commenting:

"It's a dirty shame. We oughta run old Truman out of the White House 'cause he could stop it if he wanted to!"

As I walked along slowly from 110th to 116th people looked at the headline, and heads shook in pity and anger. Several people wanted to know if I was selling newspapers. I sent them to the nearest newsstand.

On Lenox Avenue, a man walked up and wanted to borrow the paper to show his wife, who sat on a stoop near 117th. We walked over to her.

"You see Martha, it was in Monroe!" Tues. 7-30-46

"You from Georgia?" I asked.

"We left Monroe three years ago to come up here and work. I could tell you some stories far worse than this one. That is one of the worst places in the country. Old man Harrison knows damn well he could tell who they was. He knows everybody for miles around. I hope my two baby brothers brought back home guns from Europe, and I hope they start using 'em!"

Swinging back to Seventh I asked a group of youths what they thought about it. Exclamations of anger ran all the way from **"The dirty —— oughta get the same thing!"** to **"Let's go down to Washington and sit on Truman's steps."**

"Ain't that the Communist paper you got there?" one asked.

"Yes," I answered.

"Well I know what I would do. I'd get me a couple of atomic bombs and go down there. But I wanna know what the Communists are gonna do this time. I heard a couple talking about some boarded up houses on Lenox Ave. the other night. What're they gonna do about this?" New York

34d(2)(a)

PROTEST LYNCHING TODAY

Daily Worker

A mass rally and demonstration against the Georgia lynchings will take place in Madison Square Park at 23 St. and Madison Ave. Wednesday at 5:30. Wednesday 7-31-46

The meeting is under the joint sponsorship of the National Negro Congress, and the Civil Rights Congress of New York. It is endorsed by the Independent Citizens Committee, the Metropolitan Council American Veterans Committee; the United Negro and Allied Veterans the Greater New York Industrial Council; and the American Labor Party. New York, N.Y.

Answer Our Challenge

Daily Worker

THE Daily Worker yesterday revealed a highly significant fact.

Eugene Talmadge, the man who will be Georgia's next governor thanks to an undemocratic voting set-up, visited the family of the landlord which was involved in the quarrel which led to the lynch murder of four Negroes.

TALMADGE

And Talmadge visited this family of planters on the eve of the lynching, and after the "incident" between the landlord and the Negro worker had occurred.

Talmadge knew of the "incident," therefore, which led to the lynching. He must have known of the violent sentiments of his landlord friends. In fact, it was he who publicly urged violence against Negroes who dared to vote or who expected any democratic rights.

34d(2)(a) Tues. 8-6-46

The announcement of Talmadge's electoral victory was followed by mass murder shortly after Talmadge had been in Monroe County visiting the landlord crowd which had become involved in the "dispute" that ended in a mass murder.

Is there nothing in all this to rouse the Federal Government to act?

New York, N.Y.

7306

What's A Lynching?

~~Birmingham~~ News

Our able governor has acquired a convenient, if not statesmanlike, habit. When something arises he cannot easily explain he simply denies that it exists. 1-31-46

When The Tribune staff writer personally inspected the sweat boxes and we printed descriptions and photographs of the objectionable ones, the governor said: "There are no sweat boxes in Florida."

When it was disclosed that the only lynching in the United States in 1945 occurred in Madison County, Fla., wherein a group of men obtained unobstructed entrance to the county jail and removed and shot to death a prisoner, the governor says that wasn't a lynching.

We have all along been under the impression that a lynching is the execution of a prisoner without due process of law. Maybe that's all wrong.

Perhaps the governor draws a distinction between a mob making a forcible entry into a jail and one which, provided with the keys just walks in and helps itself, without interference or resistance by the authorities.—Tampa Tribune.

34d (2)(b)

[redacted]

Would That Be Justice?

A movement is now afoot, we hear, to secure a parole for Fred Hudson, Robert Sellers, and Haywood Dellinger.

Hudson Sellers and Dellinger are natives of Gaston County. About five years ago they had a fight with a young Negro, Robert Welker, on the highway near Cherryville, as we recall. With a fourth member of their party, Graham Dellinger, they trailed the Negro to his home, and there they shot and killed him.

In this case the law enforcement agencies acted with commendable promptness, fairness and efficiency. The Dellingers, Hudson and Sellers were arrested, tried, convicted of manslaughter and were given long prison sentences.

34d(2)(b)

Since that time Graham Dellinger has been paroled. Fred Hudson, Robert Sellers and Haywood Dellinger, sentenced to serve from 18 to 25 years, are still in prison and their friends have petitioned Governor Cherry to parole them.

Tuskegee Institute which compiles each year a record of the lynchings which occur in the Nation formally listed the Gastonia killing as such. Against this listing many citizens, public officials and newspapers of the State of North Carolina registered vigerous and bitter protest, contending that young Walker was killed in a fight between himself and four young white men, and that no mob action was involved.

As some one has pointed out, the State has handled the Gaston killing affair very creditably up to this time. It has meted out prompt and apparently adequate punishment to the killers, although there may be those who would contend that despite the evidence of a fight betwen the victim and his slayers the latter were murderers and should have received the death penalty.

To parole these killers now, however, when they have not served a total of five years for their crime would raise doubts in fair minds both inside and outside the State as to whether the scales of justice are evenly balanced in North Carolina. Simple justice and the reputation of North Carolina as a State wherein all men are treated as equals before the law would seem to caution against the parole of the Gaston killers before they have served a third of their sentences.

Ribbentrop Favored Lynching Of Airmen Who Bombed Reich

~~The Birmingham News~~ Ala

1-9-46

BY NOLAND NORGAARD

NUERNBERG, Germany, Jan. 9—(AP)—Evidence was presented to the International Military Tribunal today to show that Joachim von Ribbentrop, former Nazi foreign minister advocated the lynching of all captured Allied fliers who participated in the bombing of German cities.

34d (2)(b)

British Prosecutor Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, closing his case against the one-time champagne salesman on trial for his life with other high-ranking Nazis, introduced documents showing that the German High Command turned down Von Ribbentrop's proposal as too drastic. 1. 9-46

Instead the army and air force defined as "terror action justifying lynch law" only low-level attacks on civilians, shooting of parachuting German airmen in the air, strafing of civilian trains and attacks on civilian trains which were marked with a red cross.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 22, 1946

WRIGHT BRYAN

Southerners Can Stop Lynching—If They Will

MOST SOUTHERN people do not want any federal antilynching law. A small minority among us opposes such legislation because it might interfere with their own lawlessness. The great majority in the South opposes it because they believe such a law would aggravate rather than control dangerous situations.

34d(2)(b)

Decent Southerners believe in law enforcement and in fair treatment for their neighbors, whatever the color of those neighbors' skins. When crimes are committed—as crimes have been committed since the beginning of time—they believe in punishing those crimes through orderly processes of law and not through mob rule.

Lynching they know to be murder—more often than not murder of innocent persons—and an especially aggravated form of murder at that because it not only takes the lives of citizens but flaunts the authority of the state. Lynching, they believe, should be punished as swiftly and severely as any other type of murder.

Matter for Local Authority

But they contend that these matters are best left in the hands of state and local law enforcement authorities. They think federal interference, unless sought by the state, might cause more violence rather than less. They see danger to other human rights in the encroachment of state police power by the Federal Government.

Almost without exception, Southern members of the National Congress have reflected these views and have succeeded up to this time in blocking federal antilynching legislation.

If the South will, in fact, control its own lawless elements and, by force of local authority, put a stop to the outbreak of violence which has flared up in recent weeks, Southern representatives and senators will be able to maintain their position on this point and keep an antilynching law off the federal statute books.

But if the South itself allows mobs to continue on their murderous way, our representatives in Washington are likely to be swamped by demands for federal action.

Magazine Shares Southern View

So conservative a national publication as *The Saturday Evening Post* agrees with the Southern viewpoint as to the undesirability of federal antilynching legislation. The *Post* this week says "A federal antilynching law still seems to us the death knell of the federal system, and we have important doubts as to both its legal wisdom and its practical consequences."

The *Post* is echoing the opinions of Southern legislators when it says "Millions of Americans shrink from the idea that federal marshals should invade the states to perform what ought to be the duties of local law enforcement officers."

But, having demonstrated this understanding of our own position, the *Post* warns the South that if a federal antilynching law should pass, the South itself would be largely responsible. The magazine says "we can certainly envisage the possibility that the federal system will be slain in its own house by local demagogues who assume that state rights include denial to groups of American citizens as rights and protections intended to apply to all citizens in every state . . . If the states cannot protect their own citizens from mob rule, the Federal Government will have to try."

The way to avoid such action, is to arrest, convict, and execute those guilty of lynchings which already have taken place.

If our local law enforcement authorities can and will do that, we need have no fear of federal encroachment. If they cannot or will not do that, we will have only ourselves to blame for whatever the Federal Government may do.

Solution for Lynchers

Time Chicago, Ill.

Sirs:

We small-country Europeans, whether socialists or conservatives, all look up to America as our benefactor. . . . However, after reading TIME, Aug. 5, I can't understand how any American dares look any Dutchman in the face. . . . The Americans . . . are always shouting about democracy, and as proof of their democratic feelings they murder Negroes. . . .

I'm very sorry to say this but for those Georgian citizens there's but one solution: five years' occupation by Nazis. That would probably show them the resemblance between those Nazi beasts and the Georgian democratic beasts.

34d(2)(a)

9-16-46

H. BIENEN
Rotterdam, The Netherlands

gen.

Sirs:

Having just read about the lynching in Minden, La. [TIME, Aug. 26] . . . my Southern blood is boiling!

I was born and reared in Louisiana and had a Negro "mammy" to take care of me. . . .

It is time for some decent, civilized, white men to protect the Negroes, their rights, and privileges.

More power to you for reporting the truth. Keep it up. Perhaps more Southerners will realize, as I have, what must be done.

METTA MAE LIRETTE
Shreveport, La.

When Names Lose Their Scent

News & Courier Charleston, S.C.

One of the latest lynchings, the victims were five, is reported from Athens, state of Greece. Riots to which white men were parties and to which white men and negroes were parties have been reported from Athens, state of Tennessee, and Athens, state of Alabama. The inference is that lynchings and riots are coming to be classical institutions or customs. Presumably, an Athens is a crucible, or hotbed, of culture and learning. With satisfaction we set down that in some other states are Athenses in which the Athenians have not yet run amok. At one time was a village in South Carolina called Athens, but long ago it lost or changed its name. Wherever is an Athens in the United States now it might be advisable and expedient that it change its name. A rose by any other name smells as sweet.

34d(2)(b)

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Mar 8-13-46

Where Lynchers Are Not Lynchers

News & Courier Charleston, S.C.

In the North a band of murderers are called "gangsters", in the South they are called lynchers, and the terms and definitions are fixed according to the taste and fancy of Northern "Liberals" and uplifters.

Jul 8-30-46

full

1,000 Visit Clark on Lynchings

Daily Worker - Tuesday 7-30-46 New York - N.Y.

A mass delegation of more than 1,000 Negroes and whites led by Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress, and Charles A. Collins, candidate for the New York State Senate marched to the office of U.S. Attorney General Tom Clark yesterday and demanded the apprehension and prosecution of the Georgia lynchers. They also demand the prosecution of Sen. Bilbo and Eugene Talmadge for inciting the lynch murders. Acting Attorney General John F. Sonnett assured them of "a full investigation." The delegation then called at the White House but failed to get an audience with President Truman. They demanded that he immediately denounce the lynchers. Presidential Assistant David K. Niles conferred with the delegation leaders, but said nothing on the President's attitude to the lynching.

The delegation was organized and sponsored by the National Negro Congress. Tues. 7-30-46

Dr. Gene Weltfish, president of the Congress of American Women cabled the Women's International Democratic Federation in Paris to **"arouse expressions of opinion from affiliated women's organizations throughout the world, concerning this terrible fascist crime."** She asked the women in other countries to cable President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark for immediate action.

In Philadelphia more than 1,000 Negroes and whites at an interracial block party sent telegrams to Truman and Clark demanding immediate action. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Philip Bart and other Communist leaders had addressed the gathering. The affair launched the Philadelphia campaign to elect Estelle Shohen, Communist Party candidate to the state assembly.

Daily Worker

INDIANAPOLIS, July 29.—A resolution on the Georgia lynching adopted by the Indiana CIO Convention accused the U. S. Department of Justice as being "responsible for this latest outrage." Tues. 7-30-46

"This massacre is the latest atrocity in a renewed wave of violence and lawlessness against the Negro people. Attorney General Tom Clark has allowed flagrant violations of Constitutional rights. He whitewashed Columbia, Tenn., when a white mob invaded the Negro community and shot it up. He did not act when Bilbo called for violence against Negroes who tried to vote. But he finds time to urge the disciplining of lawyers who handle labor cases. The Indiana State Industrial Union Council condemns the indifference and negligence of the Department of Justice, and its refusal to use long standing Federal statutes to protect the rights of all citizens everywhere." Tues. 7-30-46

New York N.Y.

Fought in Vain?

Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

Editor Constitution: An element in Georgia has spoken decisively, even emphatically for undemocratic methods and ruthless indecency. Recently this element repudiated sound democratic leadership, and showed a tendency to become again the laughing stock of the nation.

Then in the wage of this grand insult to the better element of Georgia, there came the inhuman lynching of four Negroes near Monroe. Three of the victims were entirely innocent, while one was an ex-serviceman. He had served his country honorably and escaped death from foreign enemies, only to fall victim to the real enemies, not in Germany nor Japan, but right here at home. Yes, today, everything Georga sought n the name of decency, dgnty, honor and respect has been smeared by these outrages aganst all that is sacred to humanity, even life itself. Was the war fought in vain after all? Certainly these disgraces are not representative of the whole of Georgia. At least let us sincerely hope not. Sun. 8-4-46

DAVID L. EVERETT.

Atlanta.

Head Hangs in Shame

Constitution

Editor Constitution: After over three and a half years overseas in England, France, Luxembourg and Germany with soldiers from all over our nation who thought they were fighting for something that Robert E. Lee and Abraham Lincoln stood for, my heart sickens when I wonder how our friends and enemies will construe the ghastly happenings at Monroe. Brought up in Virginia revering Gen. J. B. Gordon, my head hangs in shame for Georgia. 8-4-46

COL. WILLIAM H. DAVIES.

Newton, Mass.

Wants Column Reprinted

Constitution

Editor Constitution: Ralph McGill's column on the cowardly murders near Monroe will be received with gratitude and approval by all decent people, and will help greatly toward an aroused public opinion such as will not tolerate a whitewashing. I suggest you reprint it in large type on front page.

Atlanta, Ga.

J. A. PERRY.

LaGrange.

Churchwomen's Stand

Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

Editor Constitution: Every churchwoman in Georgia must be distressed and horrified by the brutal crime against innocent and defenseless people which has been perpetrated in our State.

Lest silence should seem to give consent to this humiliating event, we call upon churchwomen in every section of Georgia to speak out in this crucial hour against all intolerance and injustice and especially when shown towards members of any minority group, remembering that race hatred was the chief characteristic of the enemies we so recently gave our sons and our treasure to defeat.

We urge all churchwomen both to practice and to advocate in their communities, positive and constructive good will wherever there is misunderstanding, suspicion, and the resulting hatred and fear between groups, and to demand that fair play and equal justice be assured to every citizen, no matter how obscure or helpless. Sun. 8-4-46

To claim the name of Christian without positive Christian action at a time like this is sacrilege.

The Georgia Council of Church Women invites the participation of all like-minded women, either individually or in groups.

MRS. E. G. MACKAY,
MISS CHRISTINE SMITH,
Methodist.
MRS. FRED BRIDGES,
MRS. T. D. KATZ,
Baptist.
MRS. A. H. STERNE,
MRS. J. F. HEARD,
Episcopal. Sun. 8-4-46
MRS. D. J. BRODMAN,
MRS. CHESTER MARTIN,
Christian.
MRS. A. V. KOEBLEY,
Lutheran.
MISS LOUISE PAINE,
Congregational.
MRS. L. S. TERRELL,
MRS. H. C. DEAN,
Presbyterian.

How Will Vets React?

Constitution

Editor Constitution: I guess it is time I had my say on the lynch-murders at Monroe, which has stirred the nation and disgraced our State as it has never been openly disgraced before in all its history.

I, too, wonder with Mr. Ralph McGill if any of these 20 murderers went to Sunday School and studied a lesson on reverence to God, and perhaps stayed for church and heard the Gospel of Christ. Were the sounds of groans of agony and the death screams of innocent human beings ringing in their ears? Did any of them try to justify these sounds by saying: "As man came into the world through agony and pain, so must he go out?" Atlanta

I wonder how many veterans have thought about the thousands of Negroes who breathed their last breath for the cause of democracy, dying that others might live—free from want and persecution? How are these vets reacting to the tragedy of seeing all they and their fallen comrades fought for, destroyed in one brutal attack 10 miles from Monroe? Ga.

David could have slain King Saul in his helplessness but he did not. Why? Because it is the will of God that man should not take advantage of defenseless fellow men. We realize that the men that perpetrated the hideous crime at Monroe on the 25th of July did not consider their victims as "fellow men," yet we are taught that we are one family by creation and by redemption. If this can happen in a "Christian" nation, what will be our conception of "Our Father . . . Thy Will be Done" in those final days when, we are told, the lion and the lamb shall lay down side by side. Will there be indeed, eternal peace?

JOHN R. JOHNSON.

1450 Sharon St. Sun. 8-4-46

Is This Democracy?

Constitution Sun. 8-4-46

Editor Constitution: I am a returned serviceman under the impression that Naziism and Fascism had died on the bloody battlefields of World War II. However, the events of the past few weeks have led me to believe that I was wrong in my assumption that Naziism and Fascism were dead. We have here in our own backyard what we so gallantly fought to rid the world of—I am referring to the brutal slaying of four Negroes in Walton County, Ga.

How can our people here in "these great United States", put an "iron fist" out and tell other countries what we expect them to do with democracy in their countries when we can't even control our own homeland? Atlanta

Is this democracy? Is this America, the "land of the free and the home of the brave?" If so, then who are the terrorists who lined up defenseless people and slaughtered them? Are they Americans?

WILLIAM P. KING, JR.

162 Euhrlee St.

Stunned and Helpless

Constitution

Editor Constitution: The Atlanta Metropolitan Council of Negro Women, affiliated with the National Council of Negro Women, the National Council of Women of United States, Inc., and the International Council of Women of the World, wishes to express its deep gratitude and sincere appreciation for the human, civilized and Christ-like attitude which you are showing and the untiring efforts which you are putting forth in the Walton County lynchings. We, the Atlanta Council of Negro Women, feel bereaved, stunned and utterly helpless.

The press editorials, the statements and expressions of the churches and right thinking individuals showing that Christ's teachings of good will, brotherhood and peace still live in spite of the orgies which make it seem otherwise, have encouraged and helped us. Atlanta, Ga.

Our voices join the millions of other voices of justice loving people in protesting this dastardly atrocity and urging that your efforts not stop until justice is meted out to the guilty parties. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, and all that is decent, right and human, we beseech you, and the good people of our State and Nation to use their minds and efforts to the utmost to assure Negro citizens and other helpless people their right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Mon 8-5-46

LILLIAN B. GARNETT,

President the Atlanta Metropolitan Council of Negro Women.

Fighting Mad

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Editor Constitution: Like thousands of other Americans, I feel a deep sense of shame for the bestial cold-blooded murder of four innocent human beings that took place at Monroe. But I am not only ashamed and humiliated. I am fighting mad. I want to do something tangible to help apprehend the despicable perverts who committed this foul murder. I am, therefore, offering $25 to be paid to the person or persons supplying the information necessary to convict the guilty parties.

I am not doing this to assuage my sense of guilt nor to attempt to buy off the vengeance of the dead, but rather in the hope that others—perhaps better fixed financially than I—will do the same. Only thus can we prove to the world and to ourselves that we are civilized human beings and that our democratic pretentions are not the hollow prattlings of vicious hypocrites. Mon. 8-5-46

May I suggest, therefore, that The Constitution solicit through its editorial columns similar rewards from decent right-thinking private individuals and that a record be made of these pledges. Only in this way, it seems to me, can the people of this State and this Nation do something tangible to help right an irreparable injustice that makes of civilization, Christianity and democracy a hollow mockery. Mon. 8-5-46

VICTOR BACKUS.

223 Chestnut St., S. W.

NORTHERN AID SEEN IN SOUTH'S POLITICS

~~Times~~ New York

'Reactionaries' Named Recently Got Funds From Business Interests, Foreman Says

Wed. 7-31-46

Northern business interests were partly responsible for the success of "Southern political reactionary," Clark Foreman of Atlanta, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, told Protestant ministers yesterday at a luncheon in the Hotel Theresa, 125th Street and Seventh Avenue.

"Gene Talmadge got much of his

7299

7299

money from Detroit, New York and Chicago," Mr. Foreman said. "The reactionaries got their money, as I got it, from the North, much more than the decent candidates who opposed them. They got millions while we got thousands. Wed. 7-31-46

"Talmadge was supported by the Georgia Power Company and every mill owner in the State of Georgia. The reactionaries of the South are being financed by the reactionaries of the North. The people of Georgia, however, are beginning to vote 'right,' although the money is on the other side."

Mr. Foreman, nephew of the owner and publisher of The Atlanta Constitution, said the lynching of four Negroes at Monroe, Ga., could not have occurred if the churches of the nation "had really succeeded in winning people to the teachings of Jesus Christ."

"If the churches had done their work the people of Monroe would not have gone out on a lynch orgy," he declared. "The churchmen in that city have condemned it now. Good, but not good enough."

For Anti-Lynching Law

Mr. Foreman advocated an anti-lynching law and denied that this was "an idealistic group's position." He held that the race question was a national situation and a national threat. New York

The Rev. David Licorish, assistant pastor of the Abyssician Baptist Church, 132 West 138th Street, presided at the luncheon. He said the Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York had resolved that whatever affected the South affected the whole nation, particularly the North.

Mr. Foreman's organization, which has offices at 112 Park Avenue, was reported to have 6,000 members in Georgia. Southern headquarters are at 212½ Union Street, Nashville, with regional offices in seven Southern States.

The Liberal party sent yesterday to United States Attorney General Tom Clark a message calling for "vigorous and thorough investigation" of the lynching at Monroe.

"The guilty must be apprehended and punished," the message said. "American conscience cannot rest until lynching is once and for all eliminated." Wed. 7-31-46

The Transport Workers Union, in telegrams to President Truman and Mr. Clark, blamed the lynching on "Gene Talmadge, Senator Bilbo and the rest of the Ku Kluxers."

Sees Segregation Laws

Constitution Atlanta Ga.

Editor Consitution: In connection with the recent unfortunate lynching incident at Monroe I noticed recently where the "race statisticians" at Tuskegee Institute immediately came out with figures citing the "mistreatments" that have given members of the Negro race in this country, particularly in the South.

Why didn't the Tuskegee experts in human relationship also cite the figures of the white people in the [illegible] who have been shot, stabbed, otherwise killed and raped by Negroes. Fri. 8-2-46

Such incidents as the one at Monroe shouldn't happen, and should be discouraged in any way possible, but I think that all the profiteering societies for the advancement for Negroes (there are a number of them), and elements outside of Georgia and the South, should let Georgia law officials handle the case.

How much attention would such an incident attract in say, for instance, Michigan?

Negroes when not agitated by foreign and subversive groups outside the South are content to live and progress in their own way. During the war a lot of Negro minds were warped and diverted into dangerous channels (investigations were made of such incidents) by people who actually, believe it or not, hate the South and the ideals it stands for.

Eventually, I believe that definite and strongly enforced segregation laws will have to be made and put into effect in the South to prevent race riots. This is something that should have been done long ago. It would not be discrimination, but protection for both races. Fri. 8-2-46

Incidentally, has The Constitution started a new form of editorial journalism—one that presents only one side of a picture, and one that the majority of Southerners are not in accord with?

J. K. O'NEAL.

Adel.

Destroy This Octopus

Constitution Atlanta Ga.

Editor Constitution: The diabolical murder of the four Monroe Negroes by an ignorant gang of illiterate whites is about the last straw decency can behold.

I am a Southern born white and 78 years old. I have seen these inhuman acts of illiterate white men compounded over and over all these years and among God-fearing communities of supposed decent people who should know better.

I am amazed, in talking to many of my white friends, to learn that they regard killing a Negro no more than killing a snake. Of the 170 years (six generations) of religious teaching and free schools among us, yet this illbred scum of degenerated whites in our midst essay to violate law and religion with impunity. Fri. 8-2-46

I write this with horror and pain to express my awful feeling of disgust at calming my nativity among a class of people in the South of such low character. I have had to blush in shame often in my travels at having to acknowledge I was a citizen of Georgia by birth.

If again, whitewash is applied and those criminals go unpunished I dare say decent people will multiply their contempt for anything Southern.

If you head a fund to bring those criminals to punishment, count me in.

This is your one opportunity to help destroy this octopus in the South by using your paper to the interest of the public.

Fund To Fight Mobs

Constitution Atlanta

Editor Constitution: And we were horrified at the massacre of Mihailovitch and his compatriots, prejudiced and foredoomed by a totalitarian court! Fri. 8-2-46

Then this savagery in Georgia, by a mob of po' white trash suffering from an inferiority complex which makes them brutes into whose minds impulses for revenge rush at the slightest excuse for venting their class and racial hatred.

The head of the Georgia State Police, who is investigating the case, said he has run up against a stone wall, since he could get no co-operation from the citizens of the vicinity. It is unthinkable that this means that the people in that vicinity, other than the killers, condone or are willing hiding the perpetrators of this crime, which for dastardly boldness and mercilessness is unequaled. Their silence is probably due to fear for their lives, reprisal by these vengeful murderers, known or suspected, ruthless characters whom they hold in mortal terror. Should such a state of terrorism and uneasiness be allowed to exist in any community in Georgia? If such a state of intimidation continues, which promises to defeat the ends of justice, martial law should be proclaimed in the area, and a house-to-house search made for firearms, a careful ballistics study then made to determine the guns from which the bullets found in the bodies were fired, and every male citizen in the area affected subjected to the closest questioning.

To remove this stigma on Georgia's name, no expense should be spared, even if it costs a million dollars, even if the money has to be raised by popular subscription. We do not cavil about the expense when fighting dictators. Let the people of Georgia dig down in their jeans to show their abhorrence of such crimes and their determination to see such criminals stamped out. Let the General Assembly pass an act setting aside out of state funds a sum of say $1,000,000 as a "war chest," for such purposes, or else authorize an issue of interest-bearing bonds to be sold to the people of Georgia—as the Federal Government issued War Bonds—to create a special fund for the vigorous prosecution of this Walton County crime and all similar crimes by "unknown parties," so that there will be every assurance that such "unknowns" will be relentlessly ferreted out and made "known," and justice meted out to them, as a measure of our peace and security.

Just off the campus of the University of Georgia, great seat of learning, where are inculcated and nurtured the principles of true citizenship; a stone's throw from the most important city and commercial center in the Southeast; in the shadow of Stone Mountain, from whose vaulted side, for a languished project, the uncompleted figures in the grandiose carving of the knightly defenders of Southern ideals, overlook the terrain where this heinous thing took place—in such a quarter! Shall we stand for this grievous assault on the peace and dignity of our state?

A. O'B. BAILEY.

Savannah. Fri 8-2-46

So the World May Know

Constitution Atlanta Ga.

Editor Constitution: This telegram was sent by Georgians who were guests of the new Rabun Hotel to try to tell the world that we do not approve of mass murder: Attorney General Tom Clark, Washington, D. C.

In deep humiliation at the heinous, cold-blooded murder of four Negroes, we—citizens of Georgia—appeal to you to instruct the Federal Bureau of Investigation to consign to the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department an ample force of operators to make immediate and full investigation of the crime in order that the guilty parties may be quickly brought to justice and by such action you will discourage or eliminate further violence.

Signed— Fri 8-2-46

WILLIS A. SUTTON,
J. C. DIXON,
T. H. HALL,
MRS. HINTON BOOTH,
MRS. ELIZABETH JONES,
MRS. JOSEPH BERG,
BLANCHE W. DIXON,
BERTA W. CHANDLER,
L. J. BLACK,
J. P. JONES,
S. B. SAVAGE,
GHEER JOHNSTON,
W. J. SMITH.

Real Disservice

Atlanta Ga. Constitution

Editor Constitution: The recent political contest in this State between the Baboons and Cocoons (silk-stocking crowd) was held with little disorder. But the "regrettable incident" over in Walton County has given the State much unfavorable publicity.

Sooner or later, the perpetrators of this dastardly crime will be apprehended and severely punished. But it serves no useful purpose and is a real disservice to their race for these professional Negro agitators to hand out inflammatory statements to the press. Though we heard much recently about race superiority it seems our boasted civilization is not advancing any too fast. Sat. 8-3-46

LEWIS PEFFENWELL.

Sandersville.

14 Lynchings

Atlanta Constitution

Editor Constitution: I was dumbfounded to read in Eugene Talmadge's statement on the Monroe lynching the following claim: "During my three terms as Governor of Georgia there was not a lynching in the State." Even for one so adept at twisting facts for his own purposes, this seems an especially absurd and reckless method of attempting to mislead intelligent Georgians. It is both common knowledge and recorded fact that there were, during his three terms as Governor, a total of 14 lynchings in Georgia. The year 1942 is the only year of his governorship which was free of lynchings. In 1933 there were four, in 1934 there was one, in 1935 there were two, and in 1936 there were six. During his last term there was one, in 1941, making a total for all three terms of 14. The source of these facts is the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., whose records of lynchings are so widely accepted as official that they are used by the World Almanac. Atlanta Ga.

JANE T. MARTIN.

568 Page Ave., N. E.

Black Eye for State

Constitution

Editor Constitution: Article XIV, Section I, of the Constitution says that a State shall not deny equal protection of the law to all persons within its jurisdiction. Georgia has accepted this Constitution and all that is written in it. But let us see how well she is upholding these laws that she gave allegiance to.

Just a few days ago, four citizens of Georgia were shot and killed in cold blood. These people were not given a trial or opportunity to defend themselves.

Georgia Bureau of Investigation, co-operating with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is trying hard to bring these lawbreakers to justice, but the law cannot get the right co-operation from the local inhabitants of Monroe. Atlanta Ga.

If the citizens of Walton County are ever to be respected in these United States as good Americans, they should bring these criminals to justice. If these people fear for their own lives, they should remember that the law will give them full protection. Mon. 8-5-46

I know that the peace-loving citizens of Walton County as well as others in the entire United States regret and deplore this horrible atrocity.

The men responsible for these crimes must be brought to justice and they should be treated as common murderers.

Even though the guilty party is brought to justice, the South will have a black eye for years to come. How long will our State and our Government permit such things to happen?

HAROLD HARRIS

Marietta.

Sense of Outrage

Constitution Atlanta Ga.

Editor Constitution: We wish to commend the editorials in your colums of July 29 and 30, 1946, regarding the lynchings in Walton County on July 25, 1946.

As an organization whose members see daily the effects of fear, intolerance and injustice upon the people whom we serve, without regard to racial origin, we feel obligated to express our sense of outrage. We wish to join with other groups in urging that public consciousness be kept aroused until mob violence becomes impossible. Thur. 8-5-46

GRACE H. DICKS,
Chairman, Georgia Chapter
American Association of
Social Workers.
Atlanta.

Annexation Postponed

The annexation of Mississippi [illegible] by the State of [illegible] has been postponed for the present.

Negroes Want Justice

Constitution

Editor Constitution: We Negroes would like to see every single one of those cowards brought to justice. Not the usual justice Georgia has given to similar cases in the past. The kind of justice that would be given Negroes had they committed such crime.

ALBERT GRIGGS.

LaGrange. Atlanta Ga.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 6, 1946

Could Have Happened in Any County

In every county in Georgia there are men like those in Walton County who lynched the four Negroes. There are certainly plenty like them in Fulton County. Walton County just happened to be the scene. Let us pray to God there will be no further outrages of a similar nature, but there is certainly no fairness in setting Walton County apart as if it were unique. The crime is on the conscience of all Georgians.

Mobs Respect No One

The Courier Journal

Your courageous editorial, "Talmadge Wasn't There, But His Spirit Was" in The Courier-Journal of July 27, should be commended. The tragedy of the Georgia lynching of the Malcolms and Butlers is that today it was they and tomorrow it may be the reader of this letter. Mobs and mob psychology respect no one.

C. C. UNDERWOOD.

Louisville. Tue. 7-30-46

full

7300

The Klan As a Quarry Of Federal Agents

Courier-Journal

34d(2)(b)

NEWS that the F.B.I. is to be unleashed on the trail of the Ku Klux Klan holds one of the best prospects of action we have seen yet. There never has been, in the view of many persons shocked by lynchings and terror, sufficient use of federal laws against violence and intimidation. Civil rights are sacred, and so also are the guarantees of keeping them secure. But all too few are the efforts to seek out conspiracy, as apart from murder, in such incidents as the massacre of helpless Negroes near Monroe, Ga.

Mon. 8-5-46

Belief is general that such affairs are no concern of the Federal Government, involving as they do State and local laws to punish murder and rioting. However, the fundamental safeguards of the Constitution also are involved. And to protect these against plots to overthrow them, plenty of authority is vested in the central government. Without it, the debauchery of justice which occurs all too often, when action is left to local politicians and fearful neighbors, would leave people helpless.

Louisville, Ky.

It was through the use of this power that the practice of peonage, which flourished around the turn of the century in lumber camps, turpentine operations, mines and plantations, was attacked. Convictions were obtained in federal courts and many a guilty person was sent to prison.

Direct action of this sort, proceeding against individuals for un-American behavior rather than against organizations which may be dispersed without destroying the poison they have spread, is the sure cure for the hooded terror. Perhaps no case for federal prosecution may be found as result of F.B.I. investigations. But at least the competent investigators and their extraordinarily effective methods may amass evidence of which local authorities, less skilled and less aloof, can make good use.

Mon. 8-5-46

The Spirit of Lynching Is Not a Local Growth

Louisville, Ky.
Courier-Journal

THE F.B.I. is reported to have tracked down members of the mob that killed four Negroes in an orgy of blood lust near Monroe, Georgia. For the first time lynchers find themselves against a force more powerful and sure than timid or protective officers of their own communities. The Nation has made Georgia's shame its business. Sat 8-10-46

34d(2)(b)

It is high time. Apart from the brutal massacre itself, the dangerous trend that is shown in Georgia as part and parcel of EUGENE TALMADGE'S successful campaign for Governor needs airing. This becomes the Nation's business because it moves into a pattern of thought and action that has no place in the American way. It is shockingly too much like the Nazi career in many an identical detail.

To gain power, TALMADGE preached hatred of a helpless minority of Negroes (read, in HITLER'S case, the Jews). In TALMADGE'S speeches and writings he whipped up fears of the Negro that burst out at times in white-hot fanaticism. The distortions and poisons of his newspaper, *The Statesman* (the Nazis had *Mein Kampf*) festered in every rural mail box and on city streets where it was circulated by thousands.

As another startling parallel, the so-called leaders of Georgia—industrialists, big corporations, utilities; in short, Big Money—rode with TALMADGE. You will recall HJALMAR SCHACHT and the financial angels of HITLER'S beginnings. TALMADGE had a record of keeping labor in its place. TALMADGE herded strikers into concentration camps in 1934. In other administrations, TALMADGE reduced taxes in a way that helped wealth, touched the little fellow but little except in case of the demagogic $3 automobile tag which he created by executive order, setting aside the legislature's statute. TALMADGE was a shouting foe of the New Deal from the start, a darling and beneficiary of the Liberty League of 1936.

To continue the genealogical ties, a TALMADGE gestapo shows up. In the campaign just concluded, TALMADGE declared his intention of putting a peace officer of each of Georgia's 159 counties on the State pay roll as a member of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, to be unchallenged in local law enforcement. As his storm troops, there was to be the Ku Klux Klan, upon which he smiled.

All these things become the Nation's concern. Georgia is one of the Southeastern States which social scientists have called "the seedbed of the Nation," for their high rate of population reproduction. With politics in Georgia dominated by the County-unit system of primary elections, which in TALMADGE'S case overcame a popular majority of votes, the suit which has been filed to overthrow the system is a thing for the Nation to watch with hope.

Partly in anger, partly in frustration, many proposals have been made by writers in other sections since the Monroe massacre. Among these is the idea that Negroes should leave Georgia and the South in a mass migration. But the problem of TALMADGE and the attitudes he represents is not one to be solved by revenge or flight. The problem lies there, and is to be solved there by positive means. The South is not to be isolated from the blood-stream of the Nation, but the Nation is best to be served by eradicating from that stream the virus of un-American infection. Sat 8-10-46.

We of Kentucky cannot talk piously of this situation as a people remote. The day's news reveals a beam in our own eyes. There is something shocking in the report of protests, rank with racial and religious prejudice, which Attorney General DUMMIT has received for his action to outlaw the Ku Klux Klan in Kentucky. But this, if anything, serves only to confirm the thought that a betrayal of democracy, wherever it is found, is the business of every decent American, wherever he lives. It is the business of all our institutions. The disease of intolerance is not to be quarantined by State lines. We must get at the germ. It needs the disinfectant of truth, knowledge, religion, democracy.

For Whom the Bell Tolls

Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

It was fitting and encouraging that many ministers of the State should have spoken out in Sunday sermons against the cowardly mob murders in Walton County last week.

34d(2)(b)

Even more gratifying were the resolutions adopted by Sunday School classes and church congregations, terming the murders uncivilized, un-Christian and barbaric. (2c) Tue. 7-30-46

The First Methodist Church in Monroe, near where the bloody orgy took place, was among the church congregations speaking out in behalf of Christianity and life under the law.

We liked particularly the statement by Dr. Leonard Cochran, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Valdosta, who said:

"If the minority race cannot look to the Christian church as its friend and protector, then the church is unworthy to bear the name Christian." Tue. 7-30-46

Let every man and woman of sensitive heart and intelligent mind think on this crime, realizing that crime leads to crime, and defiance of law to more defiance.

"Send not to know for whom the bell tolls—it tolls for thee."

Birmingham, Ala., News
July 31, 1946

Mr. Talmadge Regrets

(2)

Gene Talmadge is back in Georgia after trip to the West, and he's awfully sorry tha Gov. Arnall was embarrassed by the lynching party of last week. Red-gallus Gene say the incident was regrettable and that unde his coming administration "such atrocitie will be at a minimum."

34d(2)(b)

We hope sincerely that they'll not only be at a minimum, but will be entirely nonexistent. The cavalier pose which Talmadge has adopted toward the horrible event is typical of the way he thinks. He does not seem to assume any responsibility for the attitude which his campaign has engendered. Does he not realize that the vicious race hatred which he preached while getting himself elected was at least partially responsible for the shooting? Or doesn't he care?

Out of the mouthings of Talmadge and Bilbo and Rankin comes the attitude that condones and even sponsors such acts of lawlessness. The irresponsible utterances of these men are having bitter results. We shall be lucky if further killings do not occur. But they must not occur. The South cannot afford such blots on its record. Every official in every Southern state must make extraordinary efforts to prevent them. And the best way by which they may be stopped is by finding the guilty men and punishing them as the murderers they are. The leader of the gang in Georgia has been described as an elderly man, well dressed and looking like a gentleman. But whatever his looks are, his actions have belied them. He is a cowardly and vicious criminal, and no matter what his position in the community may be, he must be made to suffer at the law's hands for the evil he has committed, for the stain he has placed on the state's reputation, for the misery he has brought to a whole race of people.

* * *

Gov. Arnall has offered a reward of $10,000 for the capture of the men. He has charged every law enforcement officer in the state with the duty of apprehending the criminals. He has called in the assistance of the FBI. To him it is not simply a regrettable incident; it is a great tragedy that must be righted so far as the orderly process of the law can do so. But he cannot wipe out the stain against decency, against the victims, against the white race that committed it, against the good relations that were being built up between the Negroes and the whites. Until this event happened, the South's record of lynchings was getting better all the time. That record has been forever marred. But by diligent work and continued cooperation between the leaders of two races who must increasingly understand each other's problems, the record can be made better again.

* * *

It is heartening to know that President Truman and Attorney General Clark have offered to the state of Georgia the full cooperation of all federal investigating forces in solving the crime, which Mr. Clark referred to as an "affront to decent Americanism." His attitude is quite correctly that the facilities of the FBI shall be placed at the disposal of the law forces of Georgia and that the probe is being carried on in the tradition of the government "with dispatch, efficiency and determination." The better citizens of Georgia, refusing to accept Talmadge's position, have held protest meetings. Episcopal ministers in Atlanta yesterday in a called session expressed the opinion that "no atrocity in this generation . . . is quite so loathsome and ominous."

If the sad affair had to occur, we are glad that it came while Arnall was still governor, for he can do much to redeem his state's reputation before the nation. Unless Talmadge adopts another attitude, however, we shall begin to think that the charges brought against the South by our friends of other sections may have some basis in fact. God grant that he will see the error of his thinking before it's too late to save the reputation of the entire region.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
Aug. 2, 1946

Destroy This Octopus

Editor Constitution: The diabolical murder of the four Monroe Negroes by an ignorant gang of illiterate whites is about the last straw decency can behold.

I am a Southern born white and 78 years old. I have seen these inhuman acts of illiterate white men compounded over and over all these years and among God-fearing communities of supposed decent people who should know better.

I am amazed, in talking to many of my white friends, to learn that they regard killing a Negro no more than killing a snake. Of the 170 years (six generations) of religious teaching and free schools among us, yet this illbred scum of degenerated whites in our midst essay to violate law and religion with impunity.

I write this with horror and pain to express my awful feeling of disgust at claiming my nativity among a class of people in the South of such low character. I have had to blush in shame often in my travels at having to acknowledge I was a citizen of Georgia by birth.

If again whitewash is applied and those criminals go unpunished I dare say decent people will multiply their contempt for anything Southern.

If you head a fund to bring those criminals to punishment, count me in.

This is your one opportunity to help destroy this octopus in the South by using your paper to the interest of the public.

A. HENLEY.

Atlanta.

Sparks, Ga., Eagle
Aug. 2, 1946

Governor Offers Reward Of $10,000 For Mob Members

Characterizing the mob slaying of four negroes in Walton county last week as one of the worst incidents ever to take place in this state and a humiliation to the decent citizens of Georgia, Governor Ellis Arnall, acting for the state, has offered a reward of $500 each for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties, or a total of more than $10,000.

The Governor issued the following statement:

"The decent people of Georgia are humiliated about the mass murder of four negroes in Walton county by an unknown mob of some 20 desperadoes.

"As Governor of Georgia, I am offering a reward to the full limit of the law. $500 will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of each participant in the massacre.

"These rewards will total more than $10,000. This lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice.

"I am directing the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to keep its investigators in Walton county until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to law enforcement officers.

"This mass murder is one of the worst incidents ever to take place in our state. The killing of innocent people is disgraceful morally and legally.

"I am urging local law enforcement officials in Walton county and all state agents to leave nothing undone in ferreting out the guilty parties.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
July 30, 1946

Georgia Must Find The Killers

While the nation shudders with horror at the recent lynching in Georgia the newly elected governor of the state says that it is a regrettable incident. But Governor Arnall is making use of every available police officer and has called in the assistance of the FBI in trying to find the parties guilty of what was presumably a well premeditated act of violence.

Meanwhile Negro organizations have gone into action. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People through its executive secretary, Walter White, is demanding federal action. The Southern Negro Youth Congress has written a letter to Atty. Gen. Clark in strong language—so strong that it causes us concern. We agree that this crime against society must be solved and the guilty men sternly punished, but we do not think that the Negro in America is doing his cause any good by threatening violence with retributive action. The wording of the letter does just that.

* * *

The attitude of this paper can be stated clearly. It resents as bitterly as any citizen, colored or white, the outlawry of any group, organized or unorganized. It is profoundly shocked at what happened in Georgia. It too demands that every law enforcement officer available shall be used in an intense search for the white criminals who committed the foul deed. It hopes that they will be identified and captured in short order and that they will be tried and punished like any other murderers. It believes that the recent loose talk by officials elected to high position in Georgia and other Southern states has been a direct bid for illegal persecution of minority groups, especially for violence against Negroes. It derogates such talk. It has contended against it during the campaigns, and it will continue to voice strong disapproval of any such talk in the future. But it does not believe that any group has the right to threaten return violence, no matter what the provocation.

* * *

We make that statement because we believe that the Negro is hurting his own cause and because we do not want to see it injured. Whenever riots occur, the two races who must live together in the South both suffer, but the Negro always suffers more. Innocent men are always sacrificed to the mob spirit, and more Negroes suffer than whites and for a longer time. The evolution of the Negro race to a first-class citizenship is coming about. Perhaps it is coming slowly, more slowly than many of us wish, but it is coming. That is, it is coming if Negro leaders do not lose their heads and by their own actions set their gains back by many years.

The hope of the Negro in the South today is to be found in men like Ellis Arnall. In this particular case Mr. Arnall cannot afford not to prosecute this extra-legal murder to the limit of his intelligence and his great ability. Arnall is a fearless man. He is already exerting every effort to find the criminals and then to see that they are punished. Simply because he stands for—and has always stood for—every thing that Talmadge doesn't, he must, if for no other reason than political expediency, solve this case. But there is another reason why he is trying. It is that he sincerely wants to uphold his principles. He believes in justice to all men of all races. He believes in the dignity of the law. He believes in it so strongly that he would not go beyond the law even to right a wrong committed against it. He does not want the whole of the nation's press and all the firebrands of the country to have ammunition for an attack on a state's ability to solve its own problems. He is determined that the state of Georgia shall ferret out the criminals by its own officials and thus win for itself the admiration rather than the condemnation of other sections. He will leave no stone unturned to that end. The Negro leaders of the South and of the North and their sincere friends wherever they may be must realize that fact. If they should try to counter violence with violence—which we believe most unlikely—the result would be tragedy for themselves worse than any that has already happened.

* * *

We are profoundly convinced of the truth of what we have said because we love the South and because we admire many fine leaders of the Negro race. Working together with respect for the law, the leaders of both peoples can solve this particularly revolting crime and establish on an even firmer footing the cooperation within the section that will be of benefit to all.

Sympathy

Constitution

Editor Constitution: A great deal of newspaper space and a great deal of radio time have been devoted to discussion of the recent murders in Georgia. Elaborate memorial services have been held for the victims.

May one now ask a bit of space for a few words of sympathy for some other victims who have suffered and died at the hands of lawless people within the past few days? In Massachusetts a mother was shot to death and her young daughter assaulted; in Long Island, N. Y., a mother was shot to death and her daughter assaulted and shot; in Danville, Va., a woman was assaulted and then shot to death along with two men.

These people were innocent of any crime and at least one of them had worn the uniform of the United States in the late war.

In memory of all these people, men, and of others who have been murdered recently, I wish to drop just one verbal tear. Even if the loss of their lives was of little concern to the nation, I can't forget that they too were human and that they are just as dead from the pistol shots fired in other states as are those persons who died from pistol shots fired in Georgia.

Atlanta Con. L. M. COLLINS.

Atlanta. Sat 8-10-46

(Editor's Note—You are quite correct. But lynching gets more attention, properly, because it kills not merely individuals, but strikes at the foundation of an ordered society, replacing courts and juries.)

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 6, 1946

Slayer Still at Large

Editor, The Journal: There has been much publicity given to the crime recently committed at Monroe, Ga. This is justifiable if it will be the means of apprehending and bringing to justice the responsible parties.

However, I would appreciate it if your paper would give at least a little importance to the fact that on the 27 of April, 1946, my brother-in-law, Joseph A. Collins, an ex-serviceman with a wife and eight children was shot to death near Forsyth, Ga., by a Negro.

Up to the present time this Negro is at large, and there has been no reward offered for his apprehension by the State of Georgia.

The murder of my wife's brother was equally as atrocious as the crime committed at Monroe. He, too, was unarmed. He did not have as much as a pocket knife on his person when he was killed.

I do hope that the State of Georgia's great interest in the Monroe case will not blind its duty toward other cases, and that the governor will see fit to offer a reward for the Negro that killed this man in cold blood.

L. M. MOSELEY.

Jonesboro.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 6, 1946

Statistics on Lynching

Editor, The Journal: I was dumbfounded to read in Eugene Talmadge's statement on the Monroe lynching the following claim: "During my three terms as governor of Georgia there was not a lynching in the state." Even for one so adapt at twisting facts for his own purposes, this seems an especially absurd and reckless method of attempting to mislead intelligent Georgians. It is both common knowledge and recorded fact that there were, during his three terms as governor, a total of 14 lynchings in Georgia. 1942 is the only year of his governorship which was free of lynchings. In 1933 there were four, in 1934 there was one, in 1935 there were two, and in 1936 there were six. During his last term there was one in 1941, making a total for all three terms of 14. The source for these facts is the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, whose records of lynchings are so widely accepted as official that they are used by the World Almanac.

JANE T. MARTIN.

Atlanta.

34d(2)(b) 1946

Georgia

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A Ray of Hope in Georgia

Times-Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Many writers believe decisions by the Supreme Court and meddling from other States produced a sentiment in Georgia which resulted in success for Talmadge, but these writers are too modest. There are still thousands of folk in Georgia like Bob L. Rynn, of Richmond, who wrote in a recent VOP letter that Talmadge should be President. There are thousands in Georgia like Hitler, who wrote in "Mein Kampf" that the Negro has no place in society. Fortunately there are Georgians with other ideas, and if left alone they might develop into decent citizens, but who respond readily to the call of race prejudice or even murder if the latter can be screened with the word "lynch."

Fri. 8-2-46

The condition is depressing and deserves consideration by the other States, as this country is only as strong as its weakest State. Remember too, we are trying to tell other countries about their conduct. This looks like a good chance for other countries to tell us a thing or two.

Richmond

There is one ray of hope left in Georgia. That is the fact that Talmadge supporters do not constitute the majority of Georgians. Perhaps this is partly due to the fact that Talmadge almost wrecked the school system of Georgia when he served his last term. There are lots of good citizens in Georgia, and in their hands lies the fate of the State. They must work and pray that the progress will continue and that Georgia will regain the respect created during the term of Governor Arnall and gain the respect which these United States must possess before we can demand that others be good.

Georgians must cease to barter principle for prejudice.

WM. E. MITCHELL.

Petersburg. Fri. 8-2-46

Saving Georgia's Soul

Times-Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

In view of the massacre of four defenseless humans in Georgia and the failure thus far to apprehend the murderers, may I suggest the following procedure: First, let all Christian churches in Georgia contribute 1 per cent of the total given foreign missions towards increasing the rewards for information leading to conviction of the guilty. (It is not conducive to missionary success in India, China, etc., to read in their press of such incidents in co-called Christian America.) Fri. 8-2-46

Second, it is suggested that during current revival season in Georgia ministers exhort all persons who may have information concerning members of the mob to make confession to the proper authorities, or to Governor Arnall.

Third, let prayers be offered in the prayer meetings and at the Sunday services that the Holy Spirit might send conviction and tribulation into the hearts of the guilty so they might confess their crime and justice may be meted out.

Virginia

Fourth, let the pulpits of Georgia thunder out against such a humiliating demonstration of white supremacy, suggestive of Hitlerian savagery. The Bible abounds in suitable texts. Of course, the Ku Kluxers wouldn't relish this.

METHODIST.

Richmond. Fri. 8-2-46

Byrd's Antilynch Law

Times-Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I am writing to commend you for your recent editorial on lynching in Virginia and to establish its relationship to the current senatorial campaign. Sun. 8-4-46

Citizens of Virginia may rejoice that this form of brutality has apparently become a thing of the past in this State. To my knowledge we have not had a lynching here since 1927. It is well known that most victims of mob violence in the United States are Negroes, so the absence of this evil is an indication of a higher sense of fair play for Negroes by whites than they possessed a generation ago. In contrast to the situation in Georgia and other States of the deep South, members of the minority race in Virginia know they can go about without fear that their lives will be snuffed out by a lynching band.

Richmond

Causes for improvement in any area of human relationship are not always fully known, yet we do know that the enactment of law, and a vigorous determination to enforce it, is frequently a potent factor. It is necessary to bring into focus at this time the Byrd anti-lynching law enacted when the Senator was Governor. As you indicated, Virginia has become a lynchless State and much of the credit must go to Mr. Byrd. For his stand in this field the voters must now be grateful.

Virginia

Having performed so courageously as one of the most aggressive of Southern Governors in the suppression of lynching, and since it appears that Georgia and Mississippi under domination of Talmadge and Bilbo will not enact similar anti-lynching laws, I am sure I express the hope of a large percentage of Virginia people that Senator Byrd, if returned to Congress, will throw his weight behind a strong Federal anti-lynch law.

LUTHER P. JACKSON,

Sun. 8-4-46

Virginia State College.

Ettrick.

Exposing Murder

Times-Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

It is perhaps a little late to be expressing my appreciation for an editorial which appeared in The Times-Dispatch nearly one week ago. It has been recalled to mind almost daily, however, by newspapers and radio accounts. I refer to your editorial, "The Roar of the Georgia Mob," which concerned the comment made by Eugene Talmadge when told of the ghastly mass murder by a Georgia mob of four Negroes.

I come from a "borderline" State, and it is difficult for me to understand the treatment afforded the Negro race (which race I admire highly in many aspects) in Southern States. Mon. 8-5-46

Such editorials are to be praised. Congratulations for clear thinking and truthful presentation of facts.

ALVIN D. SMITH,
Chaplain, USNR.

Camp Peary.

Death in Georgia

Times-Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

If the Federal government does not intercede in the hideous lynching that occurred in Georgia a few days ago, the representatives of our government who are negotiating with other countries for world peace should discontinue, as it would be nothing less than mockery to continue.

It is futile to leave it to Georgia to bring the culprits to justice, when such an individual as Talmadge is elected as Governor.

The law has been much too lenient with perpetrators of such crimes in the United States and especially in the South.

Richmond, Va.

It is a poor excuse, indeed, when the authorities claim they are unable to find the guilty ones. They can be found if the desire is there.

What irony for one of the unfortunate victims to have spent five years in the service of his country, fighting for democracy in a foreign land, only to come home to die at the hands of Hitlers in this, the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Fri. 8-2-46 M. F. KENNEY,

Lexington.

Murder and Fear

News-Courier

To The News and Courier:

The sympathy of all right thinking people is given to people in sorrow regardless of race or creed. When the little Degnan girl was murdered every mother's heart ached. As long as there is one person left to remember Frances Brown, also murdered by the same person, there will be a feeling of sorrow that an innocent person's life was snuffed out.

Tues. 8-6-46

In all parts of the world today it seems that "something" which tells men that they are doing wrong is dead. We read of unsuspecting people being killed.

Charleston

Now in Georgia four people are dead and no one knows who did it. Even the best people are afraid to tell anything if they know. Why is this? Fear grips these people. One author has said, "Fear makes cowards of all." Our late president, Franklin D. Roosevelt, said, "The only thing we have to fear is fear."

When people start murdering they stop at nothing. They must save themselves at any cost. Sometimes it seems that they have committed the perfect crime but let us not forget that man can escape the law, he can escape his fellow man but he can never escape himself.

No matter where a murderer goes, no matter whom he has murdered he is always with himself. His crime shows on his face, in his eyes. People can sense his evil spirit and avoid him.

Christian people should spend much time in prayer that Almighty God may remove the evil and sin that is crushing the world today. The Bible says: "Righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a curse to any people." Tues. 8-6-46

FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUBS
(Committee on Religious and
Social Activities

Charleston.

Uprooting Racial Intolerance

Times-Dispatch

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Permit me as a member of "the master race," white Southern Protestants, to say a word stimulated by the outburst of racial barbarism in Georgia.

As little as six months ago the picture of racial relations in the South seemed to have improved from black to gray. This was undoubtedly the result of the hangover of interdependence of all men, regardless of race, for personal and unit security in combat abroad. These gains have since been wiped out by developments in Mississippi and Georgia in which petty demagogues, mouthing creeds of white supremacy and medieval chivalry, have elevated themselves into office through their direct appeal to the egos and prejudices of unintelligent and uneducated people. Tues. 8-6-46

Eventual solution to this problem lies in establishment of a first-class system of education, unbiased and universal throughout the South. Richmond

Various State educational boards must stir themselves and make some attempt to overhaul and modernize existing educational machinery. Lubricated with tolerance and manned by open-minded and preferably intersectional teachers, this machinery will serve to indoctrinate succeeding generations in the basic propositions of Americanism. Tues. 8-6-46

Until this is done or, at least, started we can expect to see periodic recurrence of lynching.

ROBERT SEAGER, II.

Bayonne, N. J.

FOR OUR OWN SELF-RESPECT

(Macon Telegraph)

Constitution

Atlanta Ga.

This is a time for cool heads.

It is a time for a renewal of confidence, neighbor between neighbor.

It is every man's business to see that pressures are relaxed and that Georgia gets back to normal without running the risk of any more violence.

Meanwhile, we have an obligation to discharge to our honor. We must prove that the perpetrators of the foul deed at Monroe cannot escape justice before the law which they have mocked.

We must demonstrate, not primarily for others to see but to preserve our own self-respect, that we in Georgia do not condone murder and that deliberate and cold-blooded killers can expect no less than the full penalty.

M. ASHBY JONES

Constitution

Text And Pretext

Atlanta Ga.

Sun. 8-4-46

Words are inadequate to express the deep sense of shame and sorrow with which every true lover of Georgia heard of the murder of four defenseless Negroes near Monroe. Certainly the phrase "regrettable incident" did not describe the deep disappointment this reversion to barbarism brought to those of us who had hoped that the deadly disease of lynching, which for so long had eaten at the heart of our democracy, had been cured. One is forced to solemnly ask the question, was this mass murder of helpless Negroes the first fruits of the triumphant appeal in our late election for "white supremacy"? Does this killing of four defenseless black people, by 20 armed white people, prove that the white people are supreme over the black people? If it does, then in the name of decency and justice—by the primary standards of democracy and religion—ought the white people to be supreme?

This shocking expression of lawlessness on the Monroe road is a direct and vital challenge to the fundamental principle of self-government, for which we have just fought and won a terrible war. And we must not forget, that one of the victims of this lawless killing, had worn the uniform of our great democracy, in its fight for human freedom. I am sure we will all agree that it is the primary duty of our Government to protect the lives of its citizens. In the performance of this duty it must guarantee to every man accused of a crime, the right to an impartial trial by a jury of his peers. This is the priceless privilege won by our forefathers at Runnymede. For a mob in Georgia to kill a man without a legal trial is to rob him of his right as a citizen of the U. S.

Heretofore our National Government has very wisely delegated to the States where the offense was committed, jurisdiction over these crimes. In other words, the National Government has delegated to the State Government the sacred duty of protecting its citizens. But let it be remembered that in delegating this duty to the State, the National Government does not, and cannot, surrender its right and responsibility for the safety of its citizens. Therefore, it seems to be perfectly clear that so far as the question of National or State's rights is concerned, the National Government has the right to assume jurisdiction over the crime of mob murder, whenever a State fails to perform its sacred duty of protection of a citizen of the United States. Sun. 8-4-46

However, simply because the National Government has a right to do this does not make it wise to do so. The sense of local responsibility has proven to be so valuable in the development of democracy it would be almost fatal to withdraw this responsibility from the local community. But if democracy will not function in any given locality—in other words, if the locality fails to govern itself—the National Government cannot leave its citizens in that locality without the protection of some government. It is in duty bound to resume the responsibility which it had delegated.

Here is the vital challenge which emerges from this latest revival of mob rule. It is Ku Kluxism versus Americanism. Will the government of Georgia, at any cost, detect and punish the criminals involved in this latest outrage? Can we, and will we, prove that we are a self-governing people?

RALPH T. JONES

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

Mayor of Monroe Writes in Protest

E. L. Almand, Jr., Mayor of Monroe, Ga., has written a letter protesting the column which appeared here last Wednesday concerning the quadruple lynching which took place in Walton County recently.

It is inevitable that Mayor Almand and all other good citizens of Monroe and of Walton County are sensitive about the horror which was staged just within the borders of that county. As a consequence of this sensitivity, it is obvious he has misread the Wednesday column. For it was, as clearly stated, an expression of sympathy with the good citizens of the county for the fearful stigma that 20 vicious criminals have placed upon their community. It described the reaction which memory of the crime will bring to one person, myself. Especially if the guilty are never apprehended, tried and punished. There was no intent to advocate any "boycott."

True, the guilty may not be residents of Walton County. True, a few feet farther the scene of the crime would have been Oconee County. Sun. 8-4-46. (Ga.)

34 X (2) (6)

It is also true the rest of the nation condemns all Georgia, all the South, for the deed. And, in other parts of the world, it is on the United States the stigma rests.

However, the crime did occur in Walton. It is, therefore, the primary responsibility of Walton authorities to bring the guilty to justice.

Those county authorities are, undoubtedly, doing their utmost to achieve that end. They have the assistance of the GBI, also of the FBI. For the sake of Walton and Monroe, let us pray for early solution of the crime and that the solving may be chiefly due to the efforts of the authorities of the county itself.

Mayor's Letter Here is Mayor Almand's letter:

"No one in Monroe and Walton County makes any pretense of defense for the atrocity of July 25 committed withing our county's limits. We do not condone the crime; we earnestly hope for the speedy arrest and meting of justice to the assailants.

"However, we are resentful of the unwarranted abuse that Monroe and Walton County as a whole are taking in the press, the most serious and thoughtless to date being borne in a column by Ralph T. Jones in The Constitution of July 31.

"Mr. Jones' suggested boycott of Monroe and Walton County is no more reasonable than if citizens of this State should shun Atlanta and Fulton County for reason of unsavory events there in the past.

"If Mr. Jones hesitates to stop only in Monroe and Walton County for fear of accosting one of the reputed 20 assailants, he has apparently acquired more information as to the residence of the mobsters than have the FBI or the GBI. It is grossly unfair to stamp Monroe and Walton County publicly as a place to always revive a 'memory of horror.'

"Monroe and Walton County have stood too long as leaders in religious, civic and educational attainment to be permanently blackened in the eyes of the world by the lawless action of one small group of men. There appear to be, unfortunately, lawless elements in all parts of our nation; this affair could have happened in your own back yard as easily as it did on a lonely road on the extreme outskirts of this county.

"It's easy to 'kick the underdog,' and Mr. Jones took the easy course to fill his column of July 31. I feel that he errs and injures in condemning our citizenry as a whole in his suggestive boycott. A newspaper's function is ostensibly to influence, and we feel that the personal reactions of Mr. Jones are intended as such and constitute a grave injustice. Sun. 8-4-46

"In conclusion: Condemn the deed all you will and you have the support of law-abiding citizens of Monroe and Walton County, but condemn the citizens of Monroe and Walton County as a whole and you do a serious and irreparable wrong.

"E. L. ALMAND, JR.,
"Mayor, City of Monroe, Ga."

Signs Of Things To Come

34 X (2) (6)

The unprecedented lynching of two women and two men near Monroe, Georgia, last Thursday under the stillness of Georgia's sunshine, foreshadows a new era of hate, mob violence and lawlessness in the state. It is the natural sequel of an amazing and incredible period of incitement to hate and violence between the races. Indeed it takes on the appearance of a planned pattern of intimidation, threats and conspiracy in an effort to deprive Negroes of their civil liberties.

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

Here is a situation so brutal and sordid that it defies description in any language. To view the bullet-ridden bodies of these victims, but also for supplying information and clues sense of horror, incredibility and stark shame of a state or a community which is capable of producing such outlaws and hoodlums. Sunday 7-28-46

Governor Arnall, in his characteristic fairness, has expressed a determination to launch a searching investigation of the multiple lynchings in an effort to bring the guilty to account. The Federal Bureau of Investigation promises to lend every cooperation in the effort. And there can be no doubt but that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, together with Negroes in Georgia and throughout the nation will speed the collection of a "Defense Fund to aid the victims' families and furtner the investigation. We do not think that Negroes should stand aside and wait for he Government to conduct these investigations alone. They have a direct responsibility for prompt and decisive action, not only in aiding the families of these victims, but also for supplying information and clues to governmental agences in the study of these lynchings. It is the only logical step we can take to put an end to such archiac behavior. Furthermore, these mobsters need to be punished in the only language that they know. They need to be hailed before the courts and dealt with in the sternest sort of manner, commensurate with the dastard crimes which they have committed. Atlanta, Ga.

Today, Georgia is living in the throes of fears, illwill and grave misunderstandings, no small part of which issues from the recently ended gubernatorial race in which the flames of hatred were fanned to unbelievable heights. As a consequence, the eyes of the nation are observing its every motion. Either we must come to grips with this wave of fears and mistrust or we will be subjected to further violence, bloodshed and lynching. 7-28-46

RALPH McGILL

'The Lord's Gonna Rain Fire--'

("One of these days the Lord's gonna rain fire on this pore world—one of these days.")

34 X (2) (6)

What is the news of this world?

You can read it in the headlines. Turn the pages of newspapers, the recorders of history as it is made:

"Kills Wife, Blows Own Head Off."

"Decibels, Not Curves, Sway Judges of Beauty."

"Fifteen Believed Drowned in Mississsippi Ferry Disaster."

"Seven Killed in Weekend Auto Crashes."

"Arrest Reported in Lynching . . . Riddled Bodies Lie in Simple Suits and Shrouds." Constitution

("One of these days the Lord's gonna rain fire on this pore world—one of these days.") Atlanta Ga.

"Beat, Rob, Gag Victim in Bathtub—Two men were arrested who earlier had forced their way into Goddard's room, beat him, robbed him of cash and clothing and left him bound and gagged in the bathtub."

"Bodies Torn, Arms Broken—The arms of the two women killed by the mob were broken, apparently when members of the mob twisted them to compel the frantic women to get into line with the men to be killed. . . ."

"Europe Is Tired, Hungry, Gloomy—Thousands of miles of travel in many countries during recent weeks show that 14 months after V-Day people want most food, clothes, houses and relief from power politics and tension."

"Defends Lynch Killings. Says Negro Must Be Put in Place."

"U. S. Charges Axis Murdered 142,076."

"Churches Denounce Mob Killing." Tue. 7-30-46

"Heirens Due to Tell All—William Heirens, 17-year-old University of Chicago student, is due to tell all in the kidnap-murder of Suzanne Degnan, the 'lipstick slaying' of Frances Brown and the fatal throat slashing of Mrs. Josephine Ross."

"Suspect Is Held in Socialite Death."

"U. S. May Have 13-Mile Rockets."

"Paroled Convict Slain After Knifing Attack."

"Rival Unions Stir Strikes on Waterfront."

"Merchant Reports Wife Missing."

("One of these days the Lord's gonna rain fire on this pore world—one of these days.")

"Jerusalem Bandits Remove Jewelry, Gold—Eight men armed with tommy guns Sunday held up the all-Jewish city of Tel Aviv, largest city in the Holy Land."

"Atomic-Run Warships by 1951, Expert Says."

"Wife, 17, Is Found Clubbed to Death."

"Nanking Assaults Depicted at Trial."

"Torn Slacks Linked to Missing Matron."

"Girl Brander Gets 3-5-Year-Term—Lt. Thomas Farrell, 25, was sentenced to three to five years in the Massachusetts State Prison for branding his initials with lighted cigarettes on the breasts and thighs of an 18-year-old stenographer."

"Brunette Sees ex-RAF Pilot in London Murder."

"Two Youths Held as Rob Suspects."

"Two Held in Slaying of Bride of a Day—Two men were held for questioning Monday in the slaying of Thelma Anderson, 17-year-old bride of a day, whose battered body was found in a lonely field on the outskirts of Newark, Ohio, today."

"Muscokee Welfare Burden Increases—Decrease in service-supported families, aged workers replaced by younger ones, alarming number of desertions by returning servicemen leaves many without support." Tue. 7-30-46

"Minister Says Mob Violence Mocks Christ, Pleases Hell."

"Relatives of Lynch Victims Afraid to Attend Services."

("One of these days the Lord's gonna rain fire on this pore world—one of these days.")

Sparks, Ga., Eagle
Aug. 2, 1946

34 X (2) (6)

We all deplore the lynching near Monroe a few days ago, but as we expected, the publications in the North are playing it up highly in feature stories. Many crimes just as bad have happened up there in the past. It appears to us some of them think a Georgia crime is much worse than one which takes place elsewhere.

Two States' Lynchers

News & Courier Charleston, S.C.

The efforts to apprehend and arrest the murderers of four negroes near Monroe, in Georgia, should not be relaxed. The negroes were killed, so the evidence makes clear, by gangsters. In Chicago, Illinois, James M. Ragin was waylaid and assassinated. The assassination was by a gang. He was, so the circumstances so far adduced point, the victim of gangsters who conspired. Between the assassination of a citizen of Illinois by gangsters and the lynching of four colored persons by 20 or 25 men in Georgia is a difference which will be plain to the Harlemites and Liberalites of Chicago and New York, but is too obscure for The News and Courier to see.

7302

The Cavalier

By Thomas Lomax Hunter

Times-Dispatch · Jul. 21

34d2b

WHEN I was a lad lynchings in the South were frightfully common occurrences. These disgraceful atrocities have happily now become rarities, and we have reason to believe that we are approaching the time when they will be just memories.

The recent massacre in Georgia is much more shocking to Southern opinion than were the mob murders committed when I was a boy. Jul. 7-30-46

This recent crime near Monroe, Ga., puts us upon notice that there are still in that neighborhood some people who have not reached higher in civilization and social ethics than a headhunter. The perpetrators of this mob massacre were undoubtedly the usual mob members. They were almost certainly the social dregs, the kind of white man who hates the Negro and has sadistic feelings toward him; is the white man who does not feel certain that he is the social equal of the colored man.

No matter how tall and dignified the leader of these thugs looked, it is absurd to imagine that he was a person of any gentility, culture or refinement.

Richmond, Va.

ACCORDING to what I can gather from the reports of this massacre, the Negroes slain were citizens of good repute. Only one of them had been in a fight with a white man, and one of the slain men and both of the slain women had done absolutely nothing to provoke their assassins to attack them.

The deliberate stirrers-up of race hatred in the South, both the local politicians who make appeal through it to the ignorant and unenlightened voters and the foreigners who go into the South in attempts to have a hand in Southern elections and make political capital out of race hatred, are responsible for keeping alive that blood lust which vents itself in such atrocities as the one which has just stained the face of Georgia and brought shame to the civilized people of that State. The time has passed when such crimes can be suffered to escape punishment. The members of this Georgia mob are every one of them guilty of deliberate and premeditated murder with malice aforethought. The FBI should be set upon their trail and should run the last one of them down so that they may be brought to trial for their murders under the laws of the State of Georgia.

The State of Georgia cannot fail to put forward its utmost efforts to apprehend and punish these savages without taking upon itself a part of the stigma and odium of the atrocity committed by these thugs and ruffians.

Tuesday 7-30-46

INTERRACIAL relations in the South have witnessed a vast improvement in the last half century. There is no sort of animosity existing between the good whites and the good Negroes. A good white man is anxious that the Negro shall enjoy and be safeguarded in all his legal rights. The better white people are glad to see all forms of racial discrimination growing less and less.

The public schools are producing a generation of white people and of colored people each of which recognizes the advantages accruing to both races through a just, generous and civilized attitude on the part of both. People who do not live in the South make a great ado over what they call social equality. I have never encountered this as any disturbing factor in our social relations. The Negro asks that he receive his legal rights on the same terms that the white man does.

Richmond

There is not social equality among white people and there is not social equality among colored people. Both races have social stratification just as it exists everywhere on earth except, perhaps, among Communists, who are vainly trying to find social happiness in a world turned upside down. Let us remember that in the South the white man is the responsible man for the maintenance of law and order and that if the Negro does not receive protection in his rights, it is the white man's fault.

The mob that at Monroe, Ga., killed four helpless and inoffensive Negroes inflicted a dreadful wound upon the pride of all the decent white people of Georgia.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
Aug. 6, 1946

25

A Minister's Testimonial

34d2b

Editor The Journal: Of course, every law-abiding citizen deplores the recent tragedy in Walton County. I think, however, that the matter is being played up entirely too much by outside influences.

Of the more than 53 years that I have been in public life, all but two years of this time were spent in Walton, Oconee, Morgan and Greene Counties. While I do not feel that the citizenry of these counties stand in need of my defense, I do want to add this testimony that I have found the citizenship of the four counties of a type which I believe will compare favorably with the citizenship of any county north or south of the Mason and Dixon Line.

Of the 20 years that I lived in Walton County, I never found a higher type of citizenship than that county afforded, and may I add this in conclusion that while the crime which has shocked this entire section was committed on Walton County soil, it has not been proven that the citizens of Walton County were the sole perpetrators of the tragic incident.

Let's be reasonable, let's be fair.

THE REV. R. W. HAYNIE.

Greensboro.

Birmingham, Ala., News
July 21, 1946

Tragedy In Georgia

34d2b

Only a few days after the end of a gubernatorial campaign in Georgia in which the racial issue was alarmingly raised, four Negroes—two men and two women—were murdered by a band of armed white men.

The details available at this writing evoke horror and revulsion in the minds and hearts of intelligent, decent men and women everywhere.

A Negro, so the story goes, was reprimanded by a farmer employer. The Negro stabbed the farmer. He was released on bond. Another farmer was taking this Negro and his wife and another Negro and his wife in an automobile to work on his farm. They were stopped at a bridge by a band of about 20 to 25 men, armed with pistols, shotguns and rifles.

The two Negroes were led off down a side road. The farmer and the two women were held at the bridge. The farmer relates that he heard one of the mob members say that he had been recognized by one of the women. The women, too, were then taken off. The farmer heard shots. The mob dispersed. The farmer notified the sheriff. The sheriff found the bodies in bushes along the side road not far from where the car had been stopped.

The farmer, according to the sheriff, testified at a coroner's inquest that he could not identify any member of the band. The sheriff quoted the farmer as saying none of the men wore a mask.

* * *

This barbaric outrage is the first case of lynch law this year, according to the records of Tuskegee Institute. It is a frightfully revolting case, involving the murder not only of the Negro under charge of stabbing his employer, but also of his wife and another man and his wife. It would appear that the latter three were entirely innocent so far as the stabbing is concerned.

The insane irresponsibility and injustice of such action is horribly emphasized by the clear indication that the mob originally did not intend to harm the women. But, if the story told by the farmer, according to the sheriff, is true, two more lives meant little or nothing to the lynchers when it appeared that the safety of one or more of them might be at stake.

Justice must be relentlessly and courageously sought in this unspeakable crime. No palliation is provided by the stabbing. The due processes of law are charged with taking care of such cases. Usurpation of the functions of the law by a mob is a menace to the foundations of American freedom and justice.

The attorney general of the United States has announced "a complete investigation" by the civil rights section of the Department of Justice. We hope the state of Georgia will be prompt to do its clear duty. It is scarcely conceivable that no way could be found to identify the members of the mob.

It would be far better for justice to be done by the state of Georgia than for it to be dependent on any kind of federal action.

Failure on Georgia's part would be sure to result in intensification of the demand for a federal anti-lynching law, despite the fine progress that has been made in recent years in reducing such crimes! Now the South and the nation are startled by one of the most terrible episodes of the kind in American history into renewed realization that the battle against lynching is not entirely won.

It solemnly underscores for all Americans the grave obligation to deal with all racial problems with the highest intelligence, discipline and justice of which we are capable.

Mr. Talmadge Regrets

News

34d2b

Gene Talmadge is back in Georgia after a trip to the West, and he's awfully sorry that Gov. Arnall was embarrassed by the lynching party of last week. Red-gallus Gene says the incident was regrettable and that under his coming administration "such atrocities will be at a minimum."

We hope sincerely that they'll not only be at a minimum, but will be entirely nonexistent. The cavalier pose which Talmadge has adopted toward the horrible event is typical of the way he thinks. He does not seem to assume any responsibility for the attitude which his campaign has engendered. Does he not realize that the vicious race hatred which he preached while getting himself elected was at least partially responsible for the shooting? Or doesn't he care?

Out of the mouthings of Talmadge and Bilbo and Rankin comes the attitude that condones and even sponsors such acts of lawlessness. The irresponsible utterances of these men are having bitter results. We shall be lucky if further killings do not occur. But they must not occur. The South cannot afford such blots on its record. Every official in every Southern state must make extraordinary efforts to prevent them. And the best way by which they may be stopped is by finding the guilty men and punishing them as the murderers they are. The leader of the gang in Georgia has been described as an elderly man, well dressed, and looking like a gentleman. But whatever his looks are, his actions have belied them. He is a cowardly and vicious criminal, and no matter what his position in the community may be, he must be made to suffer at the law's hands for the evil he has committed, for the stain he has placed on the state's reputation, for the misery he has brought to a whole race of people.

Birmingham, Ala.

Wednesday 7-31-46

Herald

Birmingham, Ala

Gov. Arnall has offered a reward of $10,000 for the capture of the men. He has charged every law enforcement officer in the state with the duty of apprehending the criminals. He has called in the assistance of the FBI. To him it is not simply a regrettable incident; it is a great tragedy that must be righted so far as the orderly process of the law can do so. But he cannot wipe out the stain against decency, against the victims, against the white race that committed it, against the good relations that were being built up between the Negroes and the whites. Until this event happened, the South's record of lynchings was getting better all the time. That record has been forever marred. But by diligent work and continued cooperation between the leaders of two races who must increasingly understand each other's problems, the record can be made better again.

7-31-46 34a(2)(17)

It is heartening to know that President Trunnan and Attorney General Clark have offered to the state of Georgia the full cooperation of all federal investigating forces in solving the crime, which Mr. Clark referred to as an "affront to decent Americanism." His attitude is quite correctly that the facilities of the FBI shall be placed at the disposal of the law forces of Georgia and that the probe is being carried on in the tradition of the government "with dispatch, efficiency and determination." The better citizens of Georgia, refusing to accept Talmadge's position, have held protest meetings. Episcopal ministers in Atlanta yesterday in a called session expressed the opinion that "no atrocity in this generation . . . is quite so loathsome and ominous." Wed.

If the sad affair had to occur, we are glad that it came while Arnall was still governor, for he can do much to redeem his state's reputation before the nation. Unless Talmadge adopts another attitude, however, we shall begin to think that the charges brought against the South by our friends of other sections may have some basis in fact. God grant that he will see the error of his thinking before it's too late to save the reputation of the entire region. 7-31-46

Law-Abiding Citizens Are Co-operating

Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

Georgia has taken on editorial rawhiding during the past week.

Newspapers the nation over have deplored the tragic massacre in Walton County. And while the majority have taken pains to point out that such crimes against human decency are by no means confined to this State, not a few have castigated it as a benighted commonwealth without civilized inclinations or the ability to enforce our own statutes.

34a(2)(4)

Thus it is distinctly refreshing to find as outstanding a newspaper as The St. Louis Post-Dispatch commending one aspect of this State's reaction to the crime.

In the editorial, entitled "A Fine Move Against Lynching," The Post-Dispatch declares: Fri. 8-2-46

"The members of the First Methodist Church of Monroe, Ga., have condemned the lynching of four Negroes near there on July 25 as an 'outrage against humanity,' called on the law-enforcement authorities to bring the guilty to justice, and pledged their co-operation. Their act is courageous, it is just, and it is the kind of act which alone will really stamp out lynching.

"The reason lynching persists in the South is that the cowards who hide in the anonymity of the mass know they will be protected. They know the law-enforcement officers will not arrest them, or that, if they do, the law-abiding citizens will not sit as jurors and convict them. They feel that they are protected by the mores of their community—and they are usually right about it.

"In Monroe, it seems, they are wrong. There are law-abiding citizens in Monroe to whom murder by lynching is no less heinous a crime than murder in any other fashion. They have denounced the mores by which mob murder is tacitly condoned and mob murderers are hidden from justice. Fri. 8-2-46

"By offering their co-operation in tracking down the murderers, they are building up a new custom toward lynching—a custom of decency and humanity, enforced by law upon those who are not by their own choice decent and humane. We hope there will be thousands more like the members of the First Methodist Church of Monroe. If they come forward, the people of the United States will at last see a cleansing from their land of the black and ugly blot of the lynch law."

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
July 27, 1946

Mob Murder in Walton

THE GOOD PEOPLE of Walton County owe it to themselves, to their community and to their state to see that those guilty of the brutal mob murders on July 25 are brought to sure and speedy justice.

34a-(2)(4)

Four Negroes, two of them women, were ambushed on a secluded road by a band of armed men and shot to death. Such is the testimony of a well-known citizen who was carrying the Negroes to his farm, in his automobile, and who himself was held at the point of a gun while the crime was perpetrated. It appears that one of the slain men had just been released from jail under a $600 bond on charges of having stabbed his employer. But the other three, as far as the record shows, were under no legal accusation.

All that is decent and humane in the soul of Georgia cries out against this atrocity. It has been the pride of our state in recent years that orderly justice prevailed and that mob violence was a thing of the past. As we value our good name and our common securiy, we dare not let that evil return. The Journal believes that there is too much civic conscience and too much Christianity in Walton County for its people to rest content until this savage crime is fully punished.

Is the FBI Licked?

Times-Dispatch Richmond, Va.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Night after night, moviegoers watch pictures flash across the screen, such as "The House on Ninety-second Street" and others which depict the intelligence and efficiency of our FBI. We watch them bring swiftly to justice Hitler's best trained spies, often no sooner than they set foot on American shores. This we take great pride in.

34a(2)(4)

But when we see this same FBI unable to apprehend 20 ignorant, unscrupulous, lawless demagogues from the backwoods of Georgia, we wonder whether this crime-cracking organization, composed of some of the most intelligent criminologists in the world, has been licked.

CLARENCE W. HOLLOWAY.
Rehoboth.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
July 28, 1946

Challenge to All Georgia

BRUTAL GANGSTERS have challenged the government, the law, the conscience of Georgia.

34a(2)(4)

In peaceful and enlightened Walton County they have done a deed so foul that every humane heart must grow sick at the thought of it. They have ambushed and slaughtered four helpless persons, two of whom were women and three of whom were wholly innocent of the circumstances which seem to have incited the mob. The fourth victim had been released from jail, under bond, on charges of having stabbed his employer. These Negroes were being carried to his country place by the prominent white farmer for whom they were to work, when they were waylaid, seized and riddled with bullets.

The conspiring murderers are still at large, a challenge to all that is decent and civilized in our State, a menace to our common security.

Governor Ellis Arnall rises to his manifest duty and to the expectation of right-minded citizens in offering a reward to the limit of the law. "Five hundred dollars," he announces, "will be paid for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of each participant in the massacre. These rewards will total more than $10,000. This lawless gang must be arrested and brought to justice." The Governor also has directed the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to continue its probe relentlessly "until the guilty parties have been identified and turned over to the law enforcement officers."

This case is, first of all, the responsibility of local and state authorities. But it is likewise the concern of every civic and religious group within the bounds of our commonwealth. No public interest will be safe, no Christian conscience will be clear if this hideous challenge of mob murder goes unanswered and unpunished. Georgians have good reason to be proud of their state's freedom from such brutality in recent years; but if forces of base passion and lawlessness are given any quarter now, we may well tremble for the future. Every civic club and chamber of commerce, every farm organization, every church and home and patriotic citizen should exert the utmost moral influence to safeguard Georgia against the calamities threatened by the Walton County crime.

MORE THAN SPARROWS

The News Birmingham, Ala

Sun. 8-11-46

To the Editor of The News:

"Are we not more than many sparrows?" Regardless of race, color or creed or education, our Heavenly Father watches over our every deed, every word we speak and every footstep we take. We have no right to condemn another, regardless of color, and take the law in our hands. Why the four Negroes were murdered in Georgia I don't understand.

34a(2)(17)

In St. Mark's Gospel we have the two greatest commandments which cover all the rest, because if we keep these two then we will want to keep the rest.

"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength." This is the first commandment.

And the second is like this: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." There is no other commandment greater than these.

If the parties who murdered these unfortunate people had read these commandments and obeyed them, they would not have had room in their hearts to commit murder.

It would have been so much better, if these Negroes were guilty of wrongdoing, to have had a trial, than the wholesale murder which was committed by a mob. I sincerely hope the mob members will be brought to justice. Perhaps some of them will never be known, but they will have to meet God face to face.

Our forefathers took this country from the Indians and it is made up of all nationalities. Why did they all come here? Because of the freedom they might enjoy. The majority of Negroes made good soldiers. And we all know about Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver and many others who have been a credit to their race. It is much better for Negroes to have education, because as a general rule education makes better citizens and better citizens make a better nation. So let's give them a helping hand, a smile and a kind word. Despise not the weak, for God wants none to perish, but all to have life eternal.

MRS. R. L. POWELL.
1701½ Avenue E, Ensley, Ala.

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Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
Aug. 19, 1946

Why Lynching Is Different

34d(2)(b)

A number of persons have asked why the Federal Government concerns itself with lynchings more than other local crimes.

The answer it easy and logical. It is to be found in the Bill of Rights, those first 10 amendments to the Constitution which guarantee to one accused of crime:

"... the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury ... to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense."

A lynching is a complete denial of these rights guaranteed by the Constitution of our country. Any lynching, anywhere, repudiates the laws, the juries, the courts and indicates a State cannot govern by law. Since it is a violation of the Constitution of the United States, it is more than an internal affair and the Government must investigate to determine if the Constitutional rights have been violated.

White Supremacy In Savagery

The Courier Journal Louisville Ky.

Two additional events underline the way in which the Southern believers in "white supremacy" seem to be driven by their belief to the most horrible form of cruelty.

Sun. 8-4-46

One event was the lynching and murder of four Negroes, two of them women, in Georgia, although only one of them was even accused—but not convicted—of a crime and that not a capital crime, and he was out on bail. The other case was the whipping to death by six white men in Mississippi of a Negro accused of the "terrible" offense of stealing a saddle. It has since been discovered that the man was not guilty at all even of this offense.

If Southern whites claim "white supremacy," they should try to be supreme in justice and humanity, not in savagery.

Those who feel strongly about such events should join or contribute to their local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People which carries on legal, political and educational work against racial prejudice and discrimination.

ALFRED BAKER LEWIS.

New York.

Keeping the Negro Down

Times-Dispatch Richmond Va.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I read Miss Carrie Shelton's letter to the VOP with much interest. The facts she presented in behalf of the Negroes were well stated.

Wed. 8-14-46

Not long ago, while discussing the Georgia episode with a few acquaintances, I was fairly amazed at the variety of opinion on the subject. I expressed disgust at the white men who insulted the integrity of our own race by committing such a foul deed. One party to the discussion stated he thought the incident would aid in keeping the Negroes "down." As well as I can perceive, they have never had chance to get up.

Persons who attack the Negro and his rights apparently suffer from an inferiority complex, and the only one he feels superior to is the Negro in his lowly station.

Reform Begins at Home

Times-Dispatch Richmond Va.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Being a lifelong citizen of Virginia, I suggest we clean up our own back yard before complaining about the stench from our neighbors. In my own experience, I know two Negroes who were murdered in cold blood by whites who were never brought to trial, and still fresh on the pages of Virginia history is the execution of a Negro laborer who dared to defend himself against a tyrannical employer. There is also the death sentence (commuted to life imprisonment) of a 15-year-old Negro convicted of rape. Yet, a Negro man of my acquaintance who discovered his white landlord compromising the Negro's 15-year-old daughter, was afraid to tell the tale until after the white man died.

34d(2)(b)

Less than two years ago, when working in a defense plant in Virginia, I noticed a white man coming, at intervals, to gather scraps from the tables. I discovered that he was refused a job with the other men because he was reported to have "Negro blood."

Recently, on a bus near Staunton when I invited a colored woman to occupy a seat beside me, a white soldier called me a "damned fool"; a white woman shouted that I was drunk and the bus driver accused me of "stirring up trouble."

Sun. 8-11-46

The Georgia lynching was a horrible crime, but Virginia has nothing to boast about. The best way to reform a neighbor is to begin on oneself.

CARRIE SHELTON,
Scarritt College.
Nashville, Tenn.

The Common Defense

LESSON OF THE GEORGIA LYNCHINGS

Sun. 8-25-46

(An Editorial)

(From The Pensacola Courier)

Daily World Atlanta Ga.

We must be concerned about what happened in Monroe, Georgia where four Negroes were lynched on July 25th. It represents a pattern for suppressing the rights and liberty of minority groups in this country.

34d(2)(b)

The pattern is that of Hitler. For the Nazis, too, used to employ hatchet-men for striking down their victims in cold blood. They, too, employed terroristic methods, saying that in pursuing this line of conduct they were not violating anybody's civil rights. Of course not. The Nazis discounted human rights and felt no obligation to recognize and respect them. Knowing what Nazism was we expected that. But knowing what Americanism is, with its emphasis on the sacredness of human personality, we cannot condone the violation of human rights in this country.

In the Georgia lynching situation we are face to face, not with Americanism, but with a type of Nazism in the United States. If the people who are responsible for the use of Nazi methods in lynching four American citizens in Georgia are not brought to justice, if this pattern of terrorism and murder is not disavowed by the American people, then there is no minority group in this country which is secure against the same kind of injustice to which the Negroes of Georgia have been subjected.

If we have learned anything from the experience of mankind under Hitlerism it is that injustice working through terrorism must be stopped when it first appears. Had the people of Germany refused to permit persecution of the Jews they would all have been spared the experience of persecution by the Nazi tyranny at a later time.

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
July 28, 1946

Georgia Authorities Must Bring Lynchers To Justice Without Delay

34d(2)(b)

The whole country is disturbed, and properly so, because of the brutal murder near Monroe, Ga., of two Negro couples by a mob of 20 or 30 white men.

There is no doubt in the mind of any of us that, if Georgia authorities really exert themselves, the perpetrators of this mass crime can be brought to justice. The very least that the law enforcement officials of our sister state can do is to make the effort, and to that extent do what they can for the good name of their commonwealth.

Good people everywhere are concerned about this and every other similar occurrence, primarily on the grounds of common humanity. Human life has been held dearer in this country than in any other country in the world. That is one of the results of our democratic conceptions, and it is one most properly cherished. We have embedded this high evaluation upon human life even in our criminal statutes; we have gone further than any other nation in history to see to it that no person be deprived of his life without having every opportunity possible to defend himself. The Georgia mob, as is the case with any other group of lynchers, violated ideals deeply-seated in the hearts of the nation.

But this is not the only reason for us to be disturbed, nor the only reason why Georgia authorities should exert themselves to the utmost to see the perpetrators of this outrage brought to justice. An added cause for sorrow is that it is exactly this kind of incident that gives the purveyors of hatred between the races material ideally suited to their purposes for the manufacture of more ill feeling.

The Georgia incident will be seized upon by every Red in the country as a means of causing dissension and unrest. Rep. Marcantonio, of New York, whose primary allegiance is always to Moscow and never to his own country, was out with a statement before breakfast yesterday morning. The Daily Worker and every other Red and pink publication in the country will make use of it in their hate mills.

A large section of the Negro press will do the same thing, undertaking to saddle upon all the white race the calumny which this handful of whites involved in the Georgia incident actually deserve.

There is but one cure for this kind of thing and that is speedy apprehension and punishment for those guilty. That is the only way to break up lynching, it is the human thing to do, and it is the only way to deprive the internal enemies of our country, the native Reds, of material with which to drive wedges of hatred between population elements in this country.

Brunswick, Ga., News
July 29, 1946

12

The Walton Outrage

The entire resources of the state of Georgia have been mustered in an effort to track down as vicious a gang of killers as ever roamed the country. Thus the action of 20 mobsters in Walton County in ruthlessly murdering two negro men and two negro women has already received one of its just rewards—the condemnation of every thinking person in the state.

34d(2)(b)

That Governor Arnall himself has centered his entire attention upon the outcome of this dastardly act is only right and just. His every move in seeing to it that justice prevails will have complete endorsement from public and press.

Once again the eyes of the nation are upon Georgia. The state must show that it can protect the rights of its fellow citizens in a quick and orderly manner. There can be no hesitancy, no quibbling, no obstructions in the course of Georgia justice.

Methodist Ministers Condemn 'Mob Rule'

Atlanta Association Joins State-Wide Chorus Protesting Gang Slaying of 4 Walton Negroes

The Methodist Ministers Association of Atlanta Monday assailed "shameful mob rule" in a denunciation of the slaying of four helpless Walton County Negroes, closely following condemnation of the massacre by individual churchmen from their pulpits Sunday.

342 (2)(8)

The Methodist ministers' "The Methodist Ministers' Association of Atlanta looks with horror and shame upon the lynching in Walton County, Ga., of four Negroes by a cowardly mob of white men. To our way of thinking, the hideous murder of four helpless people has besmirched the good name of Georgia. It has outraged all decency of government, it has violated all Christian conscience, and it has lynched the very law itself.

"We have just recently sent millions of the flower of our young manhood to Europe and to Asia to stamp out Nazism whose habit has been to take the law into its own hands and murder helpless people. Now in Georgia something closely akin to this European and Asiatic Nazism has arisen, and in every sence it is just as brutal.

Officers Commended

"We commend the officers of the law of Walton County and of the State of Georgia for the efforts they have made to apprehend the cowardly mob and bring them to justice. We sympathize with the community where the tragedy occurred. We call on all decent citizens of our state to rise up in denunciation of this foul deed and to make known to brutal gangsters everywhere that as a civilized people we will not stand for such shameful mob rule in Georgia.

(Signed) E. G. MACKAY,
NAT G. LONG,
LESTER RUMBLE,
B. C. GAMBLE,
ROGER STONE,
REMBERT SISSON and
H. L. SMITH.

In Valdosta, the First Methodist statement:

Church and the adult division of its Sunday School adopted resolutions deploring the massacre, and calling upon Governor Ellis Arnall to speed the apprehension of those responsible for the crime. Both resolutions were approved unanimously.

"If the minority race cannot look to the Christian church as its friend and protector, then the church is unworthy to bear the name Christian," said the Rev. Leonard Cochran, pastor of the Valdosta church. Judge A. J. Little, teacher of a men's Bible class at the church, said, "This crime was the most cowardly, un-Christian and uncivilized act committed in Georgia in many years."

Denunciations Thundered

In Atlanta, the Rev. J. Milton Richardson, of St. Luke's Episcopal Church; Dr. Lester Rumble, of St. Mark Methodist Church, and the Rev. C. H. Sewell, of Wesley Memorial Church, thundered denunciations of the lynching, while similar expressions came from the First Methodist Church in Monroe and the Methodist Church in Athens.

"Against the background of Jesus' teachings on the sacredness of human personality and the worth of human life, we see how utterly and completely un-Christian is the crime at Monroe that has shocked the consciousness of the people of Georgia," said Mr. Richardson.

Dr. Rumble commented: "The terrible crime at Monroe is a guilt of us all. All of us contributed to the murder of those four poor people if we have had prejudice in our hearts. Bringing the murderers to justice is the direct responsibility of each and every person in Georgia."

Said Mr. Sewell: "It is a paradoxical phenomenon of a so-called civilized society that we should spread the blood of our sons, brothers and fathers across the face of the world in an effort to stamp out a terrorism that exists right here in our own state."

Resolution Adopted

The First Methodist Church of Monroe adopted the following resolution: "Be it known that the First Methodist Church of Monroe, Ga., goes on record as condemning the outrage against humanity which took place in Walton County, Georgia, Thursday, July 25, 1946, and this church asks the local and county authorities to co-operate with state authorities in bringing those guilty of this hideous crime to justice."

The Athens Methodist Church at the suggestion of its pastor, the Rev. H. C. Holland, adopted a statement which read: "We condemn this act of lawlessness as being undemocratic and out of keeping with the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, and dangerous to our peace and safety; as being a stigma on the good name of the State of Georgia, nearly all of whose citizens are law-abiding people, and as being un-Christian, for the Christian religion teaches that we are to be subject to the powers that be, and that we are to respect the personalities of all people.'

Georgia Killing Cannot Be Justified, Says Bryan

The recent lynching in Georgia cannot be justified on any grounds of human behavior, Wright Bryan, editor of The Atlanta Journal, told the Carolinas' Advertising Executives' Association at its closing banquet in Charleston, S. C., Saturday night.

The greatest problem before the newspapers of the South is to continue to deal with lynchings and similar situations on a local level he declared.

It is easy to be courageous about what is the matter with China but somewhat more difficult when the editor speaks about controversial issues on his own doorstep, he added.

Augusta, Ga., Herald
Aug. 3, 1946

Union Leader Wires Protest on Lynchings

Times-Dispatch
Richmond, Va.

Andrew J. Monroe, president of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of America, AFL, Local No. 432, of Richmond, has sent a telegram to President Truman calling on him to "act immediately to stop Fascist lynch terror by arresting and sending to death all participants in the lynchings."

Sat 8-3-46

342 (2)(8)

The meat cutters local head sent the following telegram to the President:

"Call upon you to act immediately to stop Fascist lynch terror by arresting and sending to death all participants in the lynchings .By indicting and prosecuting Talmadge. By outlawing the Ku Klux Klan. By calling a special session of Congress to enact an anti-lynch law. By sending Federal troops to protect American citizens in Georgia and Mississippi."

A PERSONAL NOTE

ALL GEORGIA FEELS THE MONROE STIGMA

For several weeks Georgia has been under the spotlight of publicity. And it has been the sort of publicity that has not helped the State on the whole, nor its citizens as individuals. The political campaigns, in which White Supremacy was made the issue, claimed nationwide attention from all corners. The newspapers, and radio commentators, were having their say, and, in a way, did not speak well for Georgia.

342 (2)(8)

And now, just only eight days after the State Democratic Primary in which former Governor Talmadge was elected Governor again on a platform of White Supremacy and preservation of the White Primary comes the wholesale lynching of four helpless Negroes—two of whom were women and wives of the murdered men—near Monroe. Their bodies were so riddled with pistol, shotgun and rifle bullets they were beyond recognition.

The seemingly well-planned massacre of these four Negroes, has shattered all records for this type of lawlessness in the South, and all decent, law-abiding Georgians have been made to hang their heads in shame. There are no excuses for lynching, it is wrong in the sight of God and man, and yet, we have had many who were lynched, having been charged with the commission of some crime.

But here's four people, three of whom—including the wives of the two men—who went to their deaths at the hands of an angry mob—were absolutely innocent of any charge. Even the charge against the principal or fourth man in the group, was not of such to warrant such atrocity.

The mob who wilfully, and without mercy proceeded to snuff out the lives of their defenseless victims, have not done themselves nor the community any good. The victims of their thirst for human life, will now never know the difference. But the disgracefulness of their sorry deed will be one and another of those things Georgians will have a hard time explaining as they travel over the land for some time to come.

It is all the more disappointing, when up to now, the identity of a single member of the mob has not been learned, and of course, no arrest hhs been made. Everybody seems to be mum on the matter.

Where are the "good people of Monroe and Walton County? Where are the good people who stand for law and order, for justice and righteousness in that community? With all of the law enforcement agencies at work—local, state and national—not a single member of the mob has as yet been apprehended, and according to reports, little progress has been made.

Are the people who know the guilty parties afraid, themselves, to speak out lest they be made to suffer at the hands of a mob? Or, does there exist established covenant among some of the whites, that where a Negro is lynched or killed, those guilty of such an offense are never to betrayed, and never to be brought to trial?

In Mississippi, the other day, six white men were arrested on charges of murder, three of whom admitting whipping a Negro but said they did not think they had hurt him. The man's body was later found floating in a bayou.

Both of these major crimes—committed in Georgia and Mississippi—followed closely the primaries held, in which White Supremacy was made the principal issue by the two successful candidates in both States. Where there was peace and pleasant rleations existing between the white and Negroes of both of these States, the persistent preaching of the White Supremacy doctrine did not fail to engender the vilest sort of bad feeling, hatred, prejudice and intolerance. Only God knows how, where, and when it will end.

Georgia had made marked progress in race relations and understanding during recent years, due to the efforts of Inter-racial Commissions, religious and civic organizations and the better thinking white and Negroes of the State. These efforts have now met with a set-back, have been dealt a telling blow, and Georgia's name has been disgraced by the unfortunate occurrence at Monroe. This unspeakable crime is due to be solved if Georgia is to save face.

Now let's face the facts. The persistent advocacy of so-called White Supremacy, with all of the trimmings, breeding fear, intolerance, and intimidation, will not serve any good purpose. Lynchings, whippings, and murder in cold blood, will cause colored people to feel that they have no protection; that their lives, in the least, are of no value in remote communities, and they will seek safer places of refuge. Farms will become deserted, Negroes fleeing from the wrath of persecution, plows will rot in the fields, and mules will be left standing in the barns. It simply will not work one way, for there is reaction to everything.

These are times that call for cool heads, and sober ~~thoughts on the part of the intelligent Christian people of Georgia.~~

Asheville N. C. Citizen
Aug. 7, 1946

THE GEORGIA LYNCHINGS

Your great editorials on the fiendish lynching of several innocent Negroes near Monroe, Ga. on July 25, especially of two innocent women, is highly praiseworthy of decent law abiding people everywhere. It is refreshing and reassuring to see that there are still strong men who will not condone a crime by wilting under pressure from those connected with the criminals.

342 (2)(8)

Editorials of the kind which you have published in your paper are very highly commendable and although the lynching was of four Negroes we do not commend you solely from that point. It is for your strong and forthright stand against a heinous crime against a decent society and civilized justice that we offer our highest commendation and greatest praise.

L. S. THOMAS.
Chairman Legal Redress Committee, Asheville Branch NAACP
Aug. 5, 1946.

Assails F.B.I.

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

I guess the highly touted F.B.I. should take down its sign, not only that, but go out of business. Are they just plain damn fools or afraid to operate in the South?

Fri 8-2-46

342 (2)(8)

The only thing for those colored people to do is just to fight back. They'll break up a lot of that mob stuff down there. If the law won't protect them then they should protect themselves.

The Constitution of the United States has gotten to be as useless as something Hitler thought up and signed and our great President tucks his head and goes on a vacation.

Fri 8-23-46

A SUBSCRIBER.
Harrodsburg, Ky.

7304

Why Lynching Is Different

The Atlanta Constitution

A number of persons have asked why the Federal Government concerns itself with lynchings more than other local crimes. Atlanta, Ga. Mon. 8-19-46

The answer it easy and logical. It is to be found in the Bill of Rights, those first 10 amendments to the Constitution which guarantee to one accused of crime:

" . . . the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury . . . to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining winesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense."

A lynching is a complete denial of these rights guaranteed by the Constitution of our country. Any lynching, anywhere, repudiates the laws, the juries, the courts and indicates a State cannot govern by law. Since it is a violation of the Constitution of the United States, it is more than an internal affair and the Government must investigate to determine if the Constitutional rights have been violated.

The Church and the Mob

Times-Dispatch Richmond, Va.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Many individuals, churches and organizations have been disturbed over the murder of four Negroes in Monroe, Ga.

My home is in Alabama and I feel I am deeply concerned because I have an elderly mother and two brothers in the midst of such undesirable events. However, I am not worried, because my mother and brothers are Christians, and God will take care of them.

Thousands are being spent for the capture of the mob—to give them man's justice. What about God's justice? Richmond, Va.

Enough money has already been raised to send 20 trained ministers, white and Negro, to Monroe to teach Christianity to those people. Why not send ministers, instead of the FBI?

Churches and leaders of this country of ours, let us not be narrow in our thinking or selfish in our activities; let us take this incident as a challenge to our Christian leadership.

Remember the words of Jesus at the time of His crucifixion: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

(REV.) W. H. DILLARD.

Disputanta.

We Don't Butt In

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Editor Constitution: Years ago, when "Tobacco Road" was playing in California, a group of Georgians were attending the play and overheard a woman seated behind them say to her escort "I've been to Georgia and every one there behaves just like the people in 'Tobacco Road.'" Thurs. 8-8-46

That seems to be the attitude of the whole country in regards to Georgia. We are so poor and ignorant that we wear shoes only when we attend a lynching!

I'm dead sure that all the other states have our same problems of scandal, rape and murder—but! We let them settle those things in their own way. We don't butt in.

I want just once to pick up my newspaper and read something good about Georgia!

If all the other states will stop cluttering up our steps with their belittling attitude they would have more time to clean up their own states and we can get on with our own state affairs. Thurs.

MRS. REID MIMS.

College Park.

Georgia's Business, Not Ours

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I concede you the right to take sides in the primary between Byrd and Hutchinson. I do not, however, think you have reason for your attacks upon the politics or policies of neighboring Southern States.

You attack the system of voting in Georgia as unfair and undemocratic, but I can safely wager that if the man of your choice had been elected under the same circumstances there would not have been any unfavorable reaction. Times-Dispatch

If the system is so manifestly unfair, why do we use it for the election of our chief executive?

On the race issue you are guilty of unforgivable bias and meddling as are numerous other individuals and groups, as evidenced by the reaction to the recent Georgia killings. Richmond, Va.

There can be no doubt that it was against the law and thereby a crime, but it was an affair for Georgia and no one else has anything to do with it. Wed. 8-7-46

I can recall to you recent crimes committed by Negroes against the white race which has not been aired so widely.

Here is our own city. There have been numerous rapings and assaults perpetrated by Negroes (and relegated to the back pages), but I have not heard our Governor indirectly accused of it nor were any great rewards posted.

The affairs within a State's borders belong to that State alone and a great and costly war was fought with much bloodshed because the States felt like this.

The Southern States are just as insistent for their rights today as they were in 1861.

No amount of legislation or meddling will win for the Negro complete social equality, and it is dangerous, wishful thinking for those people who think so.

C. N. BUTLER.

Richmond.

In Defense of Georgia.

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. Thurs. 8-8-46

In answer to Louis A. Bahr's letter in The Courier-Journal, July 21, might I remind Mr. Bahr of the recent bad publicity Andrew J. May has received?

I hate Gene Talmadge and all he stands for too, but it's not the fault of all Georgians that he is back in office. He did not receive the majority of the popular vote.

As for the Negroes being shot down in cold blood, I'm terribly sorry that it happened. But neither is that the fault of Georgia or its people. I hope it will never happen again in any State.

To me Georgia is still the best place on earth.

Atlanta, Ga. Mrs. RALPH GALLMAN.

Portrait Of Walton County

Five days after the lynching of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., the New York newspaper *PM* sent a reporter to Walton County, of which Monroe is the seat, to get a background story. As *PM* printed it, it is what one might expect: a thoroughly uncomplimentary portrait of a backward civilization, not scurrilous but a statement of a hopeless situation. It condemns the so-called "better class" as a complacent, fear-ridden group that refuses to accept its own responsibility for the atrocity committed. It presents interviews with the two foremost pastors of the town of Monroe, who arranged for their congregations to pass resolutions opposing mob violence. But it also plays up an interview with a retired farmer of the community who said he did not believe that Negroes were human beings and that any kind of pressure applied to keep the Negro in his place was justified.

While one must sadly admit that he wishes such a piece had not been written, he must reconcile himself to the fact that the attitude expressed is one which a liberal-minded individual from North or South might gain from a survey of many rural counties in almost any Southern state. The unfortunate publicity which our whole section has received from the ghastly event could hardly have been avoided. The liberals of the North, bemoaning the election of Talmadge and Bilbo to high office, can now justifiably join in a chant of "I told you so." They now have an ample supply of ammunition with which to load their guns, and they will scatter their fire in all directions as they blaze away at the targets which the South has obligingly set up for them. 8-12-46

But whether one likes it or not, as he reads *PM's* article, he must realize that there is much truth in the charge that Talmadge's election in Georgia was almost a direct bid for racial trouble. Talmadge carried the county; he received 2,201 votes to 2,123 for Carmichael, 503 for Rivers. In the Blasingame district in which the stabbing that led to the lynching took place, Talmadge received 119 votes to 14 for Carmichael.

* Monday

The most damning figures, however, are those which apply to education in the county. The maximum pay for white teachers in the rural schools is $110 a month, the minimum is $45. For Negro schools, which the county superintendent of education freely admitted were little better than shacks, most of them without electricity or water and presided over by teachers who have never gone beyond high school, the maximum and minimum salaries are $94.50 and $28 respectively. School buses are used to transport white students, but none are in use for Negroes. If they go to school, they must walk back and forth. Consequently few Negroes go beyond the third grade. Last year there were 316 whites enrolled in the first grade and 417 Negroes, but in the seventh grade there were 205 whites to only 71 Negroes. There is no Negro high school in Walton County. Nor is there any Negro doctor, dentist or lawyer. There are very few Negro landowners; most of the colored people are tenant farmers; those who live in Monroe are mostly manual laborers and domestics. Birmingham, Ala.

* *

The problem, as has been so often stated before, is that of low income and poor education. The two curses always go hand in hand. The economic struggle between white and black is basically the cause for unrest in Walton County and wherever else it is found. Until the South begins to realize that equality of economic opportunity for all its citizens is its best cure-all, and until men like Talmadge and Bilbo cease to lead the uneducated, the problem will not be solved. A happy and a progressive government cannot exist where ignorance and prejudice flourish. 8-12-46

One other interesting note appears in the same issue of *PM* with the story of Walton County. In Freeport, N. Y., occurred last Feb. 5 a shooting of two Negro service men by a white policeman. The Grand Jury failed to indict the officer. A Committee for Justice in Freeport announced this week that it will continue its fight to "break" the case despite Gov. Dewey's refusal to reopen an investigation. The committee has demanded that the district attorney who presented the case be removed from office and charges that the governor's inquiry was a "preconceived whitewash." Does that sound like something that might have happened in the South? Is it possible the pot is calling the kettle black?

Democracy On Defensive

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Editor Constitution: Since no man has, can or ever will choose his race, and since it is left to a Power not ourselves, race is nothing to brag about nor apologize for. Not the first man has decided his race. Thurs. 8-15-46

Four people were lynched in Walton County, three of them not even implicated in the crime. Moreover, the one implicated, according to law, decency and the democracy we claim, deserved a trial. So far, not a person has been arrested. We have argued "State Rights" against Federal anti-lynch law. If the State does not apprehend, arrest and convict the guilty parties, what we call "state rights" will become a smoke screen behind which lynching and lawlessness will continue.

In order to have a democracy there must be a high level of intelligence and an equally high level of Christianity. In the republic, Plato rightfully claims that "a democracy is the worst form of government in the world for wild horses." The cold facts reveal in recent happenings that we need to improve at both points. We need to know more. We need the fear of God in our hearts, and to act better.

Will we be criticized from without? Such is inevitable. We accept praise for our virtues. We must accept justifiable criticism for our mistakes. No wise person hits back every time a criticism is made. Instead, he looks to see whether it is valid. If invalid, it is dismissed. If valid, corrections are made.

Is it true that democracy is on the defensive in Georgia? Can't we be wise enough in mind and good enough in heart to give every man a fair chance? Can we fight two world-wide catastrophes to make democracy safe, only to return home worshiping the gods of our beaten enemies? Georgia can, Georgia must be a spot on which God can smile.

WILLIAM HOLMES BORDERS,
Pastor, Wheat Street Baptist Church.
Atlanta.

Unfair to Georgia

Constitution, Atlanta 46

Editor Constitution: I heartily commend the timely letter of Mr. L. M. Collins and sincerely hope th's letter may help impress upon your readers that horrible crimes are by no means confined to Georgia.

34d (2)(b)

I am glad to note Mr. Collins makes no attempt to defend or justify the horrible and cowardly murders recently committed in Walton County by a cowardly mob of twenty or thirty men, and I'm glad the press and the people of Georgia are so completely one in their bitter denunciation of this defenseless crime. All this speaks well for the fine spirit that prevails here; and it is for this reason I think the press and the people in other sections are definitely unfair to Georgia when they give so much space to this one horrible crime, and give such little attention to other crimes in other sections that are just as horrible and even more defenseless. I can't conceive of a more horrible and defenseless crime than the murder and assault that recently occurred in a fashionable residence section of Long Island, and I assume the press and the public of that section are properly bitter in their denunciation of this crime, but such an opinion has to be largely a mere matter of "assumption" because this crime seems not to have been given all the unpleasant publicity that attaches to the affair in Walton County.

The other crimes mentioned by Mr. Collins as having occurred in Massachusetts and in the good State of Virginia are quite revolting in their nature, and this is true of a long list of crimes committed in various sections of our beloved country, but so many of these crimes have received only casual notice in public print. I don't think any decent persons would dare condone or defend the cowardly and defenseless crime that occurred in Walton County recently, but this horrible crime is no more defenseless than a large number of other crimes recently committed in other sections, but it has been given "undue publicity," as compared with the publicity given some of these other crimes, and some of this publicity is definitely unfair and unjust to the good people of Georgia who are in such perfect accord in their denunciation of this crime.

Fri. 8-16-46

OTHO DENTON.
Donalsonville.

Birmingham, Ala., News
Aug. 8, 1946

THE GEORGIA LYNCHINGS

Decent, law-abiding citizens throughout the South are horrified and sick at heart over the recent lynchings of four Negroes in Walton County, Georgia.

34d (2)(b)

It was a source of deep gratification to the vast majority of Southern people that lynchings and other displays of mob rule which plagued our region so long had, in recent years, been almost non-existent. The South had been congratulating itself that enlightened, Christian public opinion had practically stamped out the lynch spirit and that in its stead had come an insistence that all accused people (regardless of race, creed or color) be given a fair trial by a court of law.

Gov. Ellis Arnall and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation have already moved to bring those guilty of this heinous crime to justice. Their attitude toward the lynchings is by way of letting the rest of the nation and the world know that, as a state, Georgia does not condone such criminal brutality. President Truman has called on the Department of Justice to investigate the circumstances surrounding the crime in order to determine whether any federal statutes can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals. That is encouraging news. But it is to be hoped that Georgia's own law enforcement officers will have arrested the mobsters and the Georgia courts will have meted out justice before the federal investigation is completed. Georgia must vindicate herself; she limit of the law that she is just as determined must show by vigorous searching out the lawless offenders and prosecuting them to the as any other state that the lynch law shall not supplant laws of God and of man.—Lee County Bulletin.

Latest Anti-lynching Tactic

The News and Courier Charleston, S.C.

In Walton county, Georgia, four negroes were lynched two or three months ago. Two of the victims were women. Rewards aggregating $30,000 or $40,000 were offered for detection and arrest of the murderers, and they are still free in Georgia. The pursuers have changed their tactics, and this is the tactic of The Constitution, uplifting newspaper of Atlanta: Sun. 10-27-46

34d (2)(b)

"The Constitution recommends to the guilty that each of them think it over. Surely there is at least one or two among them with enough moral courage and enough realization that their souls must be purged of guilt by a confession and trial, to come forward and admit their participation. Let them come forth and surrender and admit their guilt, obtain a change of venue and throw themselves on the mercy of the court. As long as that crime goes unsolved and unpunished, Georgia's conscience cannot be at ease".

Although lynchers, according to popular belief and reports, are persons of hard heart, one would not think of them as capable of resisting an appeal so tenderly moving as that which The Constitution has addressed to them. "While the light holds out to burn the vilest sinner may return", and it is incredible that a band of mere lynchers will continue to persecute the Georgians by destroying the ease of the state's conscience, since they have been apprised of the suffering.

No truly patriotic lyncher who loves Georgia will turn a deaf ear to The Constitution.

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some members of both races. Georgia will merely be moving toward the achievement of national infamy as the "No. 1 social problem of the United States. Tues. 8-13-46

34d (2)(b)

Eugene Talmadge, in his more rational moments, must realize that he is incapable of carrying out a program of persecution on the scale demonstrated by Hitler in Europe. Why, then, does he persist in fanning the fire of race prejudice and hatred? If it is for personal political gain, the people of Georgia are to be pitied, since they have allowed themselves to be deluded by a man who selfishly toys with the most explosive situation any Southern state has to face.—Brewton Standard.

North Wilkesboro, N. C. Hustler
Aug. 7, 1946

RESPONSIBILITY FOR LYNCHINGS.

To the Editor: Some people seem inclined to place full responsibility upon the shoulders of one little man for the deplorable incident that happened in Georgia. Now I wouldn't know Gene if I met him in the middle of the road, but I do believe in giving even the devil his due. Perhaps I view things from an entirely different angle than most folks, but it occurs to me that a certain trio from Yankeeland are equally responseible. Remember, a nagging wife can provoke her husband until he doesn't give a "yaller damn" what happens.

34d (2)(b)

For several weeks now two of this trio have been unrelentlessly heaping vituperation (over the radio and in the press) on Talmadge, Bilbo and the KKK. This trio never miss an opportunity to cast aspersions on the people of the South. It is my honest conviction that these three are Public Enemy No. 1 to the South.

34d (2)(b)

Now for the $64 question: Why did The Merry-Go-Round so suddenly have "pressing" business in Paris last Sunday night? Why did "Back-In-a-Flash" have a pinch-hitter last Sunday night? Why did "My Day" fail to make its appearance last Sunday?

(KA)

I have been in daily contact with colored people for the past 50 years; have never had any trouble of any consequence with them. I know some I would accommodate much quicker than some white folks I know; even intercede if someone tried to impose upon them without cause, and still I have never found it necessary to call them "Mr.," "Mrs.," or "Miss" in order to gain their confidence, respect, friendship and good will. Had I done so, I'm sure I would have had trouble, and plenty of it. Colored folks, generally speaking, are just what white folks choose to make them.

To Drew, Walter and Eleanor: Shame, shame, on you.

J. C. WHITE.

Wilson.

Columbia, S. C., State
July 29, 1946

Georgia Editor Condemns Mob Action Before Ad Executives

Charleston, July 28—(AP)—The recent lynching in Georgia cannot be justified on any grounds of human behavior, Wright Bryan, editor of the Atlanta Journal, told the Carolinas' Advertising Executives association at its closing banquet here last night. The convention's sessions were held in the Fort Sumter hotel.

34d (2)(b)

"The greatest problem before the newspapers of the South is to continue to deal with lynchings and similar situations on a local level," he declared. "It is easy to be courageous about what is the matter with China, but somewhat more difficult when the editor speaks about controversial issues on his own doorstep."

Referring to the recent gubernatorial election in Georgia, Mr. Bryan exclaimed that the newspapers in his state had taken the "darndest licking" in the Democratic primary that the Georgia press has ever had.

Never, he explained, had there been such unanimity among the editors of Georgia. By actual count, 117 newspapers, daily and weekly, supported James Carmichael's candidacy, to 11 or 12 for Rivers and eight for Talmadge.

"We threw the heavy artillery into that battle," Mr. Bryan declared. The smaller weekly newspapers were more definite in their support than many of the dailies, he said. He emphasized that Mr. Carmichael's popular vote had justified the stand the press took in the election. It was a sign that Georgia was awake, even though the will of the people was overcome by the unit vote.

"The old ban against the mention of commercial names in the news can be carried to ridiculous extreme," the speaker said, discussing the -advertising departments of newspapers in relation to the reportorial and editorial rooms.

Industrial and commercial news is legitimate now more than ever, with the growth of industry in many cities and communities, he pointed out. "Cultivate that field of news," he advised.

Mr. Bryan, who saw the war as a correspondent on the European front, discussed at length his experiences. He noted the problems existing today among the nations of the world but told his listeners that their primary responsibility in the South is to help solve local problems by facing them frankly and courageously.

R. H. Carson, president of the association, announced at the close of the banquet that the next convention will take place in Winston-Salem, N. C.

Tues. 8-13-46

TALMADGE AND LYNCHING

Within three weeks of the nomination of "Ole Gene" Talmadge as governor of Georgia, the daily newspapers carry glaring headline that tell of the mass lynching of four Negroes by a group of white men. Talmadge was nominated on a platform of white supremacy, the Ku Klux Klan and "keep the Negro in his place." News, Birmingham, Ala.

34d (2)(b)

We would not attempt to connect the lynching of four Negroes to the nomination of Talmadge to the governorship of Georgia, but it is apparent that there is more than coincidence between the two events.

The whole South has been remarkably free of lynchings up until this latest outburst of violence in Georgia. Mob violence has been the cause for more justified criticism of the South than any other of the several peculiarly Southern "faults." During recent years it seemed that this means of displaying racial hatred had been wiped out and that Southerners would no longer have to apologize for the actions of groups that took the law into their own hands.

Yet Eugene Talmadge campaigns for the office of governor in Georgia preaching "white supremacy," and the nation is shortly treated to the repulsive spectacle of a lynching. "Ole Gene's" nomination must have given moral backing to the people who feel that they must administer the laws as they see fit when the relations of a white man and a Negro are involved. Tues. 8-13-46

A wave of lynchings, of Klan "justice," of shooting and hanging in our neighbor state will only prove that the people of Georgia are unable to work toward a solution of the South's race problem. Incidents of that sort will only increase the bitterness and hatred that can always be found in the minds of

34d(2)(b) 1946

Georgia

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full

The Criticisms Coming to South

Atlanta Ga. Constitution
Aug. 3

WASHINGTON—Those Southerners who resent what generally is termed "outside interference," and I often think some of it is harmful and stupid, might just as well prepare to make the most of it. Or best of it.

We with our lynchings and our politics are a national story. We will continue to be. It is not at all a question of whether we are right or wrong or what traditions we advance as unassailable. The fact remains that about all the other States regard us as a news story.

They are going to continue to examine us critically. I am all for that. It will make us think and it will cause us to examine with out own criticism those institutions, customs and traditions against which most of the "outside" criticism is directed. Self-examination always is helpful.

There will be some fools, sensationalists and unwholesome propagandists among those who come and there will be those with sincerity and intelligence. It will be they who attract the most attention and it will be they who will muddy the waters of fact because always their charges are shoddy and lacking in factual support. They usually are vulnerable and at best half truths, easily refuted. The resentment they arouse is so proper and so inevitable that it makes it difficult for the sincere critic to make a point. But they are coming.

34d(2)(b)

(Ga.)

Story

We are a story. You cannot murder four persons in cold blood, two of them young girls and three of the four innocent of any charge, without creating a feeling of repulsion, horror and curiosity.

There is murder and violence in other sections, including gang warfare, but it never quite takes the turn of our lynchings which, for downright brutality and barbarism, matches anything evil ever designed in the mind of debased people.

There is no county in the South with finer people than Walton County. It's judicial reputation is good. No lawyer ever liked going there for trial in which his client was guilty. Walton juries have a fine record of justice. The people of the county are good, decent people. They have never been a lawless people.

Espcially is this true in the rural sections where the people know what it means to have lawless bands on the loose. Burned barns, houses and ambush killings accompany lawlessness. The people don't want it and won't have it.

But, that doesn't remove national horror and curiosity. We are a story, whether we like it or not. And, while the rest of the nation has its share of crime, ours is different and it too often is un-American.

So, the critics are coming. I don't like it, either. I will resent the fools who come with their silly questions and their weak articles and comments.

The sincere, intelligent critic we should welcome.

Morality

We in the South cannot cry "let us alone." What we must do is busy ourselves lest we allow our resentment at being a news story, throw the moral weight and indignation of the nation and world against us.

We did that with slavery 85 years ago. No matter who started the trade in human beings, the fact remained that a few States ended up with them and opposed every measure to end slavery by Federal payments to owners.

We resented outside interference and we formed a new nation and stubbornly made slavery the keystone of our arch of government.

From that moment on the moral weight of the nation and the world was against us. The workers in the British spinning mills were willing to go unemployed and hungry rather than spin the cotton brought through the blockade. There was a revulsion of feeling against us which quite overshadowed every just measure we proposed or sought.

It is evil and it is fundamentally wicked and wrong to fly in the face of humanity and of divine laws and preachments. We cannot afford to do it. We cannot make intolerance and murder the keystone of our society without destroying it.

So, with more than 40 of the nation's 48 States looking at us with fear and wondering, with our deeds recited to the nations of the world who join in condemning them, we cannot expect not to have outside curiosity and interference.

We have said to let us alone and we would do the job.

We have not done that job. Shall we have the moral courage to do it or not? A lot of Americans want to know.

Atlanta Constitution

Atlanta Ga.

Sat 8-3-46

34d(2)(b)

Ga.

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Deplorable Georgia Murders

News-Courier

34d(2)(b)

Tues. 7-30-46

The murder of four negroes by a group of white men in Georgia is indefensible and comes at a most unfortunate time for the reputation of our sister state and the South in general. Not only the radical outside elements that regard Eugene Talmadge and other home-grown Southern products as "fascists" will blame the crime on his election, but moderates also may well be shaken in their faith in a "traditional" racial viewpoint when violence and hoodlumism persist.

Seen dispassionately, the four murders, which are being widely advertised as another "lynching", are a fresh example of man's inhumanity to man, the blood curse of Cain which takes all manner of forms. The callous disregard for human life infects the race despite our so-called "civilization". It breaks out in urban centers as well as rural, as witness the Detroit and Harlem race riots, the gangster terrorism of the big cities and all the other blots on American social history.

Charleston, S.C.

A similarity of the Georgia murders to Nazi liquidation of victims of racial prejudice will be cited by enemies of the South. It is true that Germans (and Russians, Yugoslavs, Poles, Spaniards and probably every other people in the history of the world, not excluding the Americans) have stood hapless individuals against walls and shot them down because of prejudices, racial, political or otherwise separated from the legal and orderly execution of criminals. Some of this prejudice may be detected in the trial of "war criminals" both in Germany and Japan.

The Georgia murders were committed by lawless individuals, not in the name of any constituted authority, so that at least the stigma of officially sanctioned murder does not apply. It may be viewed in somewhat the same category as the infinitely more horrible bombing of the King David hotel in Jerusalem, which has taken about 110 lives.

Tues. 7-30-46

Disorders occur even in relatively peaceful and normal times, and in upset conditions of the present may be expected with alarming frequency. It may be argued that had Mr. Talmadge been defeated by Mr. Carmichael, the danger of racial violence would have been enhanced rather than decreased, both by encouraging the negroes to become more bumptious and by frightening more excitable whites into excessive arrogance.

Despite the difficulties of detecting and convicting a large band of lawbreakers in a sparsely settled community, the state of Georgia should, and we expect will, take vigorous action to prosecute the murderers. It is a matter for the state to settle, not the federal government.

South Carolina

The Roar of the Georgia Mob

Times-Dispatch

34d(2)(b)

"SUCH incidents are to be regretted."

This was the sole comment made by EUGENE TALMADGE, on vacation yesterday at Cheyenne, Wyo., when told of the ghastly mass murder by a Georgia mob of four Negroes, three of whom were entirely innocent. The crime has shocked the nation and shamed the civilized world, but TALMADGE [illegible] off so nonchalantly as to justify the conclusion that his "regret" is bogus.

TALMADGE's entire campaign for Governor was pitched on the race issue, with "white supremacy" as the cornerstone. His brutal abuse of the whole Negro population reached a new high, even for him. There is nothing the least surprising in what has occurred, in view of his incitements during the recent canvass. The multiple crime near Monroe, Ga., was as surely the outgrowth of TALMADGE's appeals to prejudice as the horrible Atlanta race riot of 1906 followed inevitably upon a series of inflammatory editorials in the Atlanta *Evening News*.

"Such incidents are to be regretted"! Neither VARDAMAN, BILBO nor BLEASE ever said a more callous thing. There is some comfort for decent Americans in the announcement by GOVERNOR ELLIS ARNALL that rewards totaling over $10,000 are being offered for the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties, and that the State police have been ordered to stay in Walton County until the crime has been solved.

If the mobsters can be brought to judgment, it will be the greatest deterrent to such massacres in years. But if nobody

Richmond Va.

Sun. 7-28-46

is punished, other lynchers will feel that they, too, can operate with impunity, especially in Georgia after TALMADGE becomes Governor. That spokesman for the mobocracy has indicated that he has no intention of interfering with the red-necked ku-kluxers who go around bawling at defenseless Negroes, and murdering them often enough to "keep them in their place." Richmond

It is absolutely essential, then, that the Walton County lynchers be caught and executed. Nothing less will stop the rising roar of the Georgia backwoods mob, when TALMADGE enters the Governor's mansion in Atlanta. He kept pigs there during a previous term. Henceforth, his own presence on the premises should be sufficient. Virginia

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The 11 Should Denounce

News-Courier

342(2)(b)

Rich. 7-31-'46

The murderers of the four negroes, two men and two women, reported as having been killed by 20 or more white men, near Monroe, in Georgia, should be arrested, tried and, if convicted, should be hanged. A murder done by 20 men is more atrocious and cowardly than a murder done by one or two. If in Georgia—or in South Carolina—assaults or other crimes of which negroes, as well as white men, are guilty cannot be punished by juries, judges, sheriffs and other agents of law, the question arises whether Georgia, or another state, so failing, is entitled to the dignity and authority of statehood. In South Carolina has been no lynching in 16 years and it is hoped that never will be another. Before the contest of the 11 for the office of chief EXECUTIVE shall be concluded, each of them should declare with emphasis and without qualification that, if he be elected, he will sternly and to the best of his ability prevent lynching. The governor, the chief executive, more than all other men is responsible for the enforcement of law, and the laws are not less for the protection of the lives, liberties and properties of negroes than of white persons. The News and Courier here and now calls on the 11 candidates for governor to make the declaration against murderers who lynch and to speak out a denunciation of murder by mobs. If it be said that the presumption is that the chief executive will be faithful to his oath and that a declaration that he will do his duty would be superfluous, the reply is that South Carolina has not only had governors who turhed their faces the other way when a lynching was planned but governors who in plain words have approved lynching.

Charleston, S.C.

Rich. 7-31-'46

By Way of Advising

News + Courier Charleston, S.C.

One reads of race disturbances in the South, of a lynching in Georgia, of a riot in Alabama, but one has yet to hear of respectable, self-respecting white persons, decent people, those sometimes referred to as of the "better class" whether they are or not of it, engaging in any kind of injustice to negroes or invasion of their rights and privileges. The years have been long gone when a poltician in South Carolina spoke lightly of lynching or offered excuse for it. If among ruffian white men be a disposition to bully or otherwise mistreat negroes they would better understand that they will, in the courts and elsewhere, find no sympathy from white men representative of prevailing public opinion.

8-16-'46

THE GEORGIA LYNCHINGS.

342(2)(b)

Decent, law-abiding citizens throughout the South are horrified and sick at heart over the recent lynchings of four Negroes in Walton County, Georgia.

It was a source of deep gratification to the vast majority of Southern people that lynchings and other displays of mob rule which plagued our region so long had, in recent years, been almost non-existent. The South had been congratulating itself that enlightened, Christian public opinion had practically stamped out the lynch spirit and that in its stead had come an insistence that all accused people (regardless of race, creed or color) be given a fair trial by a court of law. News

Gov. Ellis Arnall and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation have already moved to bring those guilty of this heinous crime to justice. Their attitude toward the lynchings is by way of letting the rest of the nation and the world know that, as a state, Georgia does not condone such criminal brutality. President Truman has called on the Department of Justice to investigate the circumstances surrounding the crime in order to determine whether any federal statutes can be applied to the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals. That is encouraging news. But it is to be hoped that Georgia's own law enforcement officers will have arrested the mobsters and the Georgia courts will have meted out justice before the federal investigation is completed. Georgia must vindicate herself; she limit of the law that she is just as determined must show by vigorous searching out the lawless offenders and prosecuting them to the as any other state that the lynch law shall not supplant laws of God and of man.—Lee County Bulletin.

News 8-8-46

Fields for Investigation

News-Courier

342(2)(b)

Now, one John M. Coffee, a representative in congress from the state of Washington, is in trouble about the reception of $2,500 which was not included in his income tax return because it was considered a "gift", and so evidence accumulates that the income returns of congressmen should be investigated with the diligence and care that federal officers exhibit when they investigate a murder in the state of Georgia, which was committed near Monroe which is near Atlanta and which the state of Georgia of which Ellis Arnall, Esq., is the chief executive, has not thoroughly and sufficiently investigated.

Charleston, S.C.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer

Aug. 1, 1946

THE GEORGIA LYNCHING.

342(2)(b)

To the Editor: The brutal killing by a white mob in Georgia of four defenseless Negroes need occasion no surprise. A reelected Talmadge and a resurrected klan tell the story. There will be other such murders, not only in the Empire State of the South, but in other Southern states when and if the Ku Klux begins its reign.

There can be no hope that the State of Georgia, under Talmadge and the Ku Klux Klan, will prosecute the case. Georgia, like South Carolina and Mississippi, regard "nigger" lives lightly, especially at the hands of whites! The Federal Bureau of Investigation is the only hope. The State bureau will do nothing but fiddle while Negro men and women are shot down by white hoodlums, shielded by their Governor and his hooded, berobed henchmen. Was he not elected for this purpose? To shield the klan and protect its murderers when they kill a "nigger"?

The strong arm of the Federal Bureau of Investigation must take the case. If Georgia and other "nigger" killing Southern states resist Federal authority, the strong arm of the Federal Union can again beat her into submission, as when the Union was saved 1861-1865.

Give the case to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

JOHN B. PALMER.

Warrenton.

Sickening

Times-Dispatch

342(2)(b)

THE first fruits of the TALMADGE election in Georgia and the accompanying revival of the Ku-Klux Klan probably were harvested when a mob murdered four Negroes in Walton County, Ga., although only one of the four was even accused of a crime. This horrible mass lynching snuffed out the lives of more people than have been put to death in this way in the South during any full year since 1942. It is an everlasting disgrace to Georgia and the whole region, and it will bring down justifiable denunciation from all over the United States. Sat. 7-27-46.

As usual, nobody in the mob could be recognized, and the sheriff says there is nothing further he can do. Let us hope that this is an isolated phenomenon, and that there will be no similar episodes in Georgia or other Southern States. If there are, we may be certain that a determined drive for the Federal antilynching bill will get under way. The best assurance that these matters will be left to local and State enforcement officers lies in effective prevention and punishment by those officers. Nothing of the sort seems to be currently forthcoming in Georgia. Richmond

More favorable aspects of the Southern scene than are to be found in this humiliating episode are discussed in a *Life* magazine editorial. Instead of following various other publications and writing off the entire South as an abandoned sinkhole where nothing ever happens, and where, in the pungent description of ILYA EHRENBURG for the Soviet press, Mississippi Negroes stand around singing hallelujahs "while waiting their turn to be hanged," *Life* points to what it regards as encouraging developments here below. Advancement in agricultural, industrial, economic and cultural spheres is mentioned. The magazine has obviously tried to see the picture in focus, and not to judge the entire region by its more fantastic clowns. Virginia

However, the disgraceful affair that has just taken place in Georgia may make the editors of *Life* wish they had been less complimentary. Since it was the work of hoodlums, it cannot be considered typical, but the guilty parties have not been brought to justice. If some of the participants in these wholesale murders could be convicted and electrocuted, it would go far to convince the skeptical that the South has more than good intentions to offer, and that it is absolutely determined to put an end to mob rule. Such degenerate performances as that which has just occurred in Georgia are positively sickening.

Sat. 7-27-46

Virginia and Lynching

Times-Dispatch

342(2)(b)

THE recent outrage in Georgia brings to mind the fact that Virginia has a much better record with respect to lynching than any Southern State, with the single exception of North Carolina. By a strange coincidence, there have been 99 lynchings in both these States since 1882, according to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute. Kentucky and Tennessee each have had more than twice as many, while Mississippi and Georgia have piled up the highest totals of all, with 573 and 521, respectively.

Thurs. 8-1-46

The last undoubted lynching to occur in Virginia was in 1927, when LEONARD WOOD, a Negro, was put to death by a mob in Wise County, following his arrest on a charge of murder. There was another suspicious occurrence in 1932, when SHADRACK THOMPSON, a Negro charged with attacking a farmer and his wife near Hume, Fauquier County, was later found hanging from a tree. The coroner returned a verdict of suicide.

Richmond Va.

Undoubtedly one of the major reasons for the excellent record of Virginia in this sphere is to be found in the trail-breaking BYRD antilynching law, which GOVERNOR HARRY F. BYRD was instrumental in putting through the General Assembly during his administration. This law subjects all members of a lynching mob to murder charges, and empowers the Governor to send the Attorney-General into a county to prosecute and to spend the State's funds on the prosecution. While Virginia's lynching record was among the best prior to the passage of this law, the effect of the legislation unquestionably has been to deter mobsters from going into action. We have gone for at least 14 years now without a lynching, and probably for 19.

Thurs. 8-1-46

Virginia's record is, therefore, in glaring contrast to that of Georgia, where one of the ghastliest crimes in the modern history of the South was recently committed. It is to be hoped that the guilty parties will be caught and given the extreme penalty. Nothing less will stop this type of mob violence.

Georgia Could Help

News Courier

342(2)(b)

While The News and Courier will, for the sake of discussion, and by way of concession to the moment's popular passion, consent that the Washington government is properly behaving by trying to apprehend the murderers of two men and two women in Georgia, it holds and insists that the sovereign state of Georgia might with equal propriety send a commission and detectives to Detroit, New York, Chicago, Pittsburgh or Long Island whenever a race riot breaks out in one of those settlements, whenever white men kill a negro or a negro kills a white man. It is to be affirmed without risk of error that more negroes have been killed in race riots in Chicago, Washington, D. C., Harlem and other points North and West than have been lynched in Southern states since World War I. It is altogether probable that commissions sent from Georgia and other Southern states could teach the people in Northern cities valuable lessons about treatment of the colored people. We fear that they would not be welcomed by the Hagues, the Kellys, the Curleys and Guffeys. In the Northern cities are about 3,000,000 colored people and the "white folks", that is to say the politicians among the white folks, have got them just where they want them. Meantime, every discontented and mischief-loving negro in the South should go North quickly, while the going is good. Sat. 8-3-46

Charleston S.C.

7305

34d(2)(b) 1946

Georgia

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Decatur, Ga., DeKalb New Era
Aug. 1, 1946

The Sole Cure of Lynching

34d(2)(b)

There is nothing to be said for lynching. There is no defense civilized people can think of in its behalf. No excuse is available for its perpetration and no law of God or man ever remotely condones it. It has sometimes been said that it is a relic of barbarism. But even this is false. A relic is a thing once used, a fragment left over after that with which it was once used has gone. Lynching is not even this. It has never been known to man except as a loathesome thing. It did not come into existence until after the creation of law. In primeval ages when men exacted punishment by their own hands there was no law except that adminished by individuals. That was not lynching.

The recent incident near Monroe is not a reflection on the citizens of Monroe or of Georgia. It is a reflection on human beings everywhere. It can and does happen in all parts of our nation and is equally blamable for all. It simply shows the despicable and murderous inclinations of the human mind, the brutal and depraved depths which the human heart can reach.

Two things are necessary before lynching can be eradicated. They are spirituality and education. Until men come closer in their personal lives and thoughts to God, until they are enlightened more thoroughly in their duty to their fellow men, lynching will continue. No statute is strong enough to abolish it. Nowhere in life is its cure except in the heart and mind of men. All the deploring statements of Americans will avail nothing. Lynching will decrease in direct ratio to our approach to God and will disappear only when we have reached the closest contact with God that finite beings can attain.

These things being true there is a burden placed upon men, a responsibility that must be met. No one section of the country is guiltless. No section is in a position to cast stones at the other. Each must meet the problem as best suits the conditions under which it thrives. Each must consider the temperaments of those involved, their shortcomings and their needs. But all must work in their respective sections to the end that the higher law of God shall rule and that men come nearer and closer to Him in their hearts and mind. This is the repeated lesson every section of our country has been given and it is the disgrace of Americans that we do not profit by these lessons.

Asheville, N. C. Citizen
Aug. 7, 1946

LAKE JUNALUSKA MISSION MEETING HITS LYNCHINGS

Methodist Historical Group Dedicates Clyde Marker

34d(2)(b)

LAKE JUNALUSKA—Closing a South-wide Missionary conference here Tuesday, the body went on record by unanimous vote in condeming the recent lynching of four Negroes near Monroe, Ga., and pledged support of law enforcement agencies in Georgia in bringing the offenders to justice.

The Rev. L. W. Twiggs, pastor of First Methodist church, Gainesville, Ga., who presented the paper for adoption, quoted the historic position of the Methodist church on such matters and the paper continued with the statement that "this conference composed of representative ministers from the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the Methodist church, embracing states that comprise the heart of the Old South, reaffirm its faith in and loyalty to the church which speaks in plain terms on these matters.

Pastor's Meeting

Under the general theme, "The Pastor and Evangelism" another South-wide conference will be conducted here Tuesday through Sunday, bringing to this church center outstanding ministers and leaders from nine Southern states. The announced programmed speakers include Bishop William T. Watkins, Louisville, Ky., Dr. E. G. Homrighausen, Princeton university; Dr. J. A. Gatlin, Jonesboro, Ark.; Dr. Roy Short, Nashville, Tenn., Dr. King Vivion, Nashville and the Rev. Dr. Norman Lovein, of Atlanta, Ga., Dr. W. F. Quillian, of Atlanta, executive secretary of the Southeastern Jurisdictional council of the Methodist church, will be the presiding officer.

Dr. Gaither Warfield, missionary from Poland, delivered the closing address of the Missionary council at noon Tuesday. In his ministry in Poland Dr. Warfield suffered imprisonment and other hardships and barely escaped with his life. The warm evangelistic spirit of the Methodist church has captured the imagination of the Polish people, Dr. Warfield said.

Under the presidency of the Rev. Dr. E. N. Nease, of Greensboro, the Methodist Historical society in the renomination's Southeastern jurisdiction conducted two afternoon sessions Monday and Tuesday. The business session was marked by an address on the Cataloochee trail by H. C. Wilburn of Waynesville.

Describes Trail

Mr. Wilbur described the location of the trail and the section which is proposed to be restored and designed by congress as the "Asbury Trail" this being the place where the first Bishop of American Methodism crossed them mountains as he traveled the territory of the pioneer church. Following Mr. Wilburn's address, a motorcade formed a pilgrimage to Cove Creek, where the trail was located and a brief religious service held.

The Rev. E. P. Billups, at the closing session spoke about the Shook House near Clyde another Methodist shrine. A pilgrimage to this shrine was made and a marker unveiled. Taking part in the service at the Shook House, the Rev. C. C. Newell, pastor of the Clyde Methodist church, presided; Dr. Billups, presented the marker, "In memory of Francis Asbury, pioneer Bishop of American Methodism who visited and held services in the chapel of the home"; the Rev. P. S. Kennet, of Weaverville, accepted the marker, "in honor of the faithful and devoted life in whose memory it is erected"; Dr. Nease pronounced the words of dedication, "to the glory of God and in memory of his servant, Bishop Francis Asbury," and Nancy Jones, granddaughter of Mrs. Morgan and great granddaughter of the late D. I. L. Smathers, unveiled the marker. Bishop Clare Purcell of Charlotte, closed the service with a prayer of dedication.

Reflections on a Jury Verdict

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

34d(2)(b)

In Lawrenceburg, Tenn., a few days ago verdicts were rendered in the trial of 25 Negroes charged with attempted murder in shootings during the race riots in Columbia, Tenn. Four police officers had been wounded.

This case, which was bad enough on the basis of its facts, received the usual treatment of exaggeration and suppression from the groups which engaged in those arts. Mon. 10-21-46

The trial itself was replete with the usual inflammatory speeches and with heated, hysterical testimony about carpetbaggers, nigger lovers and so on. When it was done an all-white jury rendered a verdict of not guilty for 23 of the defendants and sentences of no more than 21 years for two found guilty. It was a very real rebuke to the Attorney General and the entire prosecution which had stooped to rather low demagogic speeches. The entire South is indebted to the Tennessee jury for its fair and impartial verdict.

All of which brings us to Georgia's lynching of some weeks ago. It was a lynching with which Walton County was credited because it occurred a few yards inside that county's borders. The lynchers may have come from elsewhere. No break has come in the case.

The Constitution recommends to the guilty that each of them think it over. Surely there is at least one or two among them with enough moral courage and enough realization that their souls must be purged of guilt by a confession and trial, to come forward and admit their participation.

The Constitution earnestly urges this course by some of the mob. By now the weight of that crime must be well-nigh intolerable.

Let them come forth and surrender and admit their guilt, obtain a change of venue and throw themselves on the mercy of the court.

As long as that crime goes unsolved and unpunished, Georgia's conscience cannot be at ease.

Georgia Press Hits Lynching

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

MONROE, Ga.—While Federal, State and county authorities pushed their probe into the brutal slaying on Thursday afternoon of four Walton County Negroes, two of them women, Georgia newspapers and private citizens, white and colored, unleashed stinging verbal blasts at perpetrators of the crime and called for immediate solution. Governor Ellis Arnall revealed in Atlanta that he was receiving hundreds of telegrams and letters from citizens in all sections of the State protesting the brutal murders of Rogers Malcolm, his wife, Maddie Kate; her brother, George Dorsey, and his wife, Mary Dorsey. Without exception, the Governor, said, the messages demanded that the slayers be brought to justice. Sat 8-3-46

The Governor, who has posted rewards totaling $10,000 for solution of the crime and arrest of the slayers, termed the massacre "one of the worst atrocities ever to take place in our State."

PRESS AROUSED

Daily newspapers in all sections of Georgia deplored editorially the slayings, and called on all law enforcement agencies to speed solution and bring the slayers to justice.

In a front page editorial Saturday morning, the Macon Telegraph termed the crime "a terrible indictment against our State.

"We have an obligation of discharge to our honor," the editorial said in part. "We must prove that the perpetrators of the foul deed at Monroe cannot escape justice before the law which they have mocked.

"We must demonstrate, not primarily for others to see, but to preserve our own self-respect that we in Georgia do not condone murder and that deliberate and cold-blooded killers can expect no less than the full penalty."

Saturday afternoon editions of The Atlanta Journal said editorially:

"The good people of Walton County owe it to themselves, to their community and to their State to see that those guilty of the brutal mob murders on July 25 are brought to sure and speedy justice.

"All that is decent and human in the soul of Georgia cries out against this atrocity. It has been the pride in our State in recent years that orderly justice prevailed and that mob violence was a thing of the past. As we value our good name and our common security, we dare not let that evil return."

J. Edgar Hooverism

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Thurs. 10-3-46

THE VERDICT at Nuernberg has branded as criminals those who instigate aggressive war.

It is well for us to remember today that the Axis was organized under the guise of fighting "world Communism"; that its organizers cloaked their real purpose with an "anti-Comintern pact," which was loudly applauded by certain groups in our own country.

J. E. HOOVER

It is well to remember this because many of those who did the applauding, whether openly or privately, are advancing the same technique within our own nation, with much the same purpose.

The speech of J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI, before the American Legion convention is a sample. The speech, of course, has been hailed by that somewhat crude spokesman for the party which is the chief vehicle for those who are driving toward fascism, B. Carroll Reece, of the GOP.

Hoover attacked the Communist Party in Nazi-like fashion. He went on to label every supporter of progressive causes, every devotee of peace and greater democracy, a dupe for the Communists. This attack is unquestionably aimed at Roosevelt, men like Wallace, Pepper, Hull, Morgenthau and at any labor leader who won't knuckle down.

The pattern is clearly established. It is the one made famous by the infamous Hitler. First, besmirch the name Communist with every conceivable lie. Then try to frighten and drive to cover all liberals, progressives and trade unionists who may share with the Communists certain immediate goals designed to win a better, freer, more secure, more peaceful life for the common man.

By frightening these progressives, by provoking divisions within the labor and liberal movements through these vile red-baiting attacks, Hoover and his GOP admirers are consciously striving to clear the way for reaction to take over completely. That is the path to fascism. Only those who say "Heil" will escape Hoover's wrath.

Hoover, it must be recalled, is the man who during this war was unable to bring a single native agent of the Nazis to book, though the country was teeming with them.

He did not arrest a single lyncher, despite the wave of fiendish murders committed in the South. He did nothing to safeguard the constitutional right of the people of Mississippi to vote. Though it is now revealed that the Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan have been working hand-in-glove, Hoover has not taken action against a single Klan leader.

The kind of speech he made reveals he has not moved or spoken against them because his political philosophy is so closely akin to theirs. America cannot be secure in its democracy as long as he and others like him remain in positions of power.

LYNCHING AND FRAME-UP IN TENNESSEE

[illegible]

The story of Tennessee's 204th lynching – a lynching that failed – and of the murder and frame-up that followed

WHITE SUPREMACY

1946

By ROBERT MINOR

25¢

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Robert Minor, the author of this pamphlet, was born in San Antonio, Texas, where he first joined a trade union—Local 717 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, A. F. of L., in 1904. Connected with the labor movement throughout his life, he is one of the founders and veteran leaders of the Communist Party. Minor was chief organizer of the defense committee of A. F. of L. unions in 1916, which led the successful fight to save the life and win the freedom of Tom Mooney, organizer of the streetcar men of San Francisco, who was framed up by the "open shop" employers on the false charge of murder. In 1930, Minor, together with William Z. Foster, chairman of the Communist Party, and Israel Amter, was a leader of the great movement of the American workers for unemployment relief. In 1931 he was placed by the Communist Party in chief responsibility for the campaign to save the lives of the nine innocent Negro boys framed up on false charges at Scottsboro, Alabama. At present he is the Secretary of the Legislative Committee of the Communist Party. His most recent pamphlet is *Tell the People How Ben Davis Was Elected.*

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CONTENTS

List of Victims 4
Foreword 5
I. 203 Lynchings in Tennessee 10
II. Henry Choate was Hanged in the Court House ... 21
III. The Castration and Murder of Cordie Cheek 26
IV. "Hush!" 37
V. "In the Future as in the Past"—? 43
VI. An American Veteran Comes Home to a Lynching . 48
VII. The Failure of Lynching Number 204 53
VIII. "Like Going Through a Captured Town" in War .. 61
IX. Mystery of the State Guard 66
X. Men From the Tall Cedar Tree 71
XI. "Questioning" Prisoners—with Tommie Guns 77
XII. Tom Clark's All-White Federal Grand Jury 85
XIII. The Frame-Up Trial 89
XIV. What to Do About It 91

Editor's Note:
Remainder of book
not filmed

Lynching 1946 342 (2)(4)

TWO GOVERNORS ON RACE PROBLEMS

"About a year ago, a fourteen-year-old Negro broke into a Wilmington, North Carolina, house, raped a pregnant woman, was caught next day, confessed, and was sentenced to death. Recently Governor R. G. Cherry of North Carolina commuted the colored boy to life imprisonment, remarking in part:

> The crimes are revolting, but a part of the blame...arises from the neglect of the state and society to provide a better environment...Our public schools, equipped with capable teachers... (and) an effective compulsory-attendance law, would do much to correct delinquency among all races.

In Florida a few months ago, a Negro under indictment for attempted rape was snatched from jail by a mob and shot to death. Governor Millard Caldwell of Florida said he didn't consider this a lynching. He went on to opine that the mob had saved courts, etc., considerable trouble and added:

> The ordeal of bringing a young and innocent victim of rape into open court and subjecting her to detailed cross-examination could easily be as great an injury as the original crime. This fact probably accounts for a number of killings which might otherwise be avoided.

Thus, Cherry of North Carolina expresses the forward-looking view of these matters, while Caldwell of Florida expresses the old, narrow view which has been about as harmful to Southern white people as to Southern Negroes. We can only congratulate North Carolina on its governor, and hope that Florida may have similar gubernatorial good luck before long."

(from Collier's Magazine
February 23, 1946)

Lynching

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(from Collier's Magazine
February 23 1946)

File 1342 (29)

Phila. Mourns Georgia Lynch Victims

HALF MILLION PEOPLE REACHED BY PROTEST MOVEMENT

The Worker New York N.Y.

PHILADELPHIA.—A half million people were affected by this city's day of mourning for the Georgia lynch victims, declared W. Randy Dixon, publicity chairman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Sun 8-11-46

"It was the greatest demonstration of its kind in local history," Magistrate Joseph Rainey, NAACP president, declared. Rainey initiated the day of protest. It was co-sponsored by over 40 of the city's organizational leaders of all races, colors, and creeds — labor, church, business, and civic.

Close to 3,000 establishments on South St., Ridge Ave., and other busy shopping centers, closed between 1 and 2 p.m.

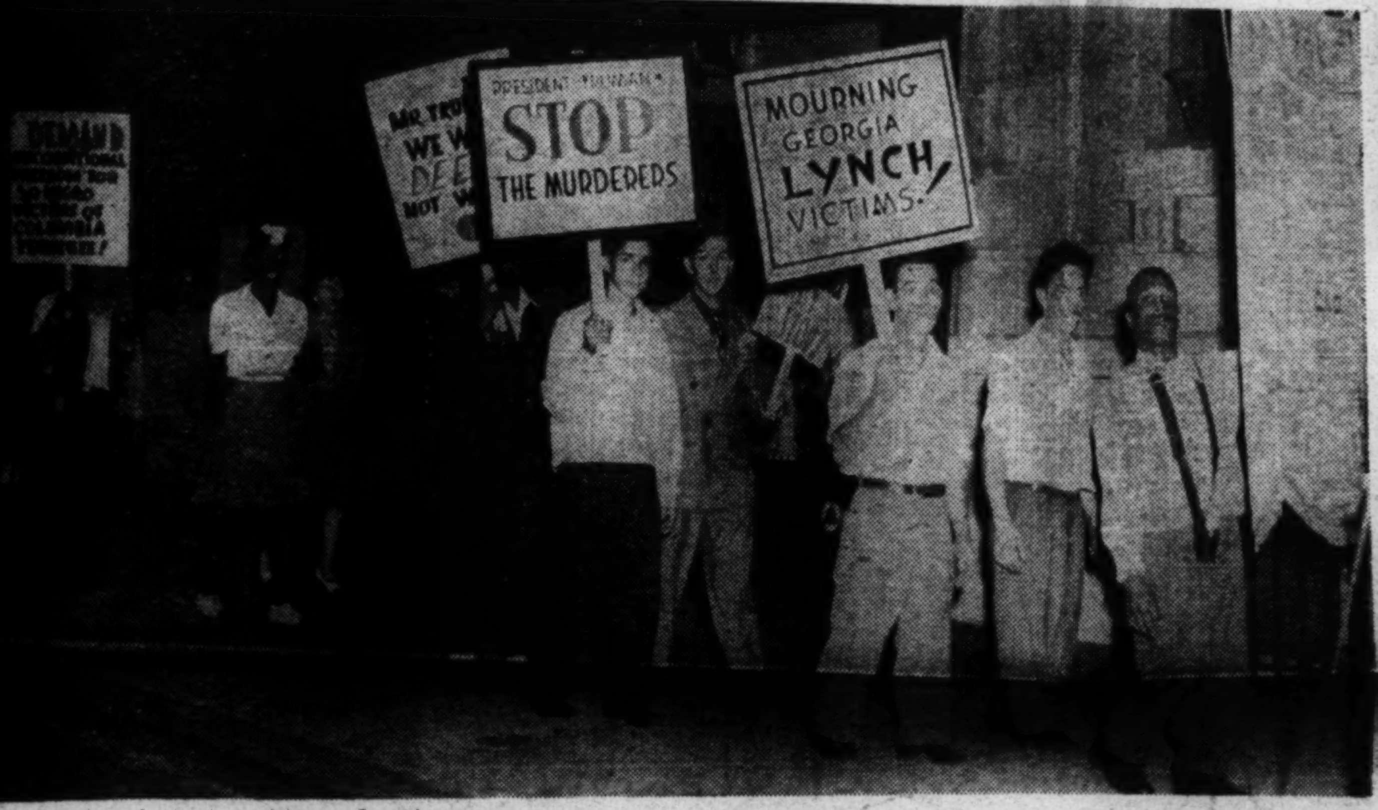
Tens of thousands of people wore black arm bands. A noon-day service was held at the White Rock Baptist Church, with Rev. W. C. Williamson, and Mrs. Jessie Schneiderman, Communist Party District Board member, speaking.

A picket line with mourning placards, led by CIO food, maritime and other workers, marched slowly through the center of the city in the late afternoon.

The protest was climaxed in the evening with three street mass meetings sponsored by the Communist Party. The meetings called for personal intervention by President Truman, and demanded that Gov. Arnall deputize and arm Georgia Negroes for their protection, and arrest Eugene Talmadge.

More than 3,500 people attended the three mass meetings, the Communist Party announced. More than a thousand petitions were collected. Two hundred people signed applications to join the Communist Party. The meetings were held at Broad and South, Carroll Park, and 22nd and Montgomery.

The day of mourning spread into Chester with a committee headed by George Raymond, NAACP president. Joe Davis of the CIO Brick Workers, and David Smith of the National Negro Congress. It was observed in a number of shops, with the CIO Baldwin steelworkers taking the lead in holding an unprecedented, noon day, spontaneous meeting inside the giant plant. Other meetings were held in shops of the CIO fur workers and Richard Allen Homes.



SALADA
TEA
CLOSED

Mourning pickets demonstrated through the center of the city, led by Frieder strikers of the CIO Food and Tobacco Workers, the NMU, veterans and others.

Locked and barred store fronts brought the day of mourning to tens of thousands of shoppers on South Street (right), and other famous and busy shopping centers. In addition to seven business associations who closed their 2,100 stores, a thousand individual storekeepers either observed the 1-2 p.m. hour of closing, or shut down on the demand of delegations from their neighborhoods. A famous South Street bar closed after three white merchant seamen insisted that the place shut down—or else! Placards announced: "Closed in memory of the victims of the Georgia lynchers."

MR.GEO.DORSEY
MRS.GEO.DORSEY
MR.ROGER MALCOM
HALCOM

The CIO National Maritime workers held a special memorial meeting and dedicated a plaque to the Georgia martyrs. Mrs. Goldie Watson, of the NAACP, and A. C. Boehm (above) were among the speakers. Says the inscription: "We honor your memory who have been sacrificed to American fascism —incited and led by the Talmadges and Bilbos. We pledge to you not to rest until fascism is complete-

Labor, Vet, Religious, Community Leaders Join Day of Mourning

The list of co-sponsors of the "Memorial Day" includes the Paptist Ministers Conference of Philadelphia and vicinity, the Rev. A. H. Hobbs, president; Bishop David H. Sims of the First AME District; the Rev. John Logan, Sr., of the Protestant Episcopal faith.

Also the Jewish Community Relations Council, William Heller, National Maritime Union; Mrs. Viola Allen, Federation of Colored Women's Clubs; the Race Division, Philadelphia Federation of Churches, the American Veterans' Committee; Community League; Mr. Wayne Hopkins, Armstrong Association; Mr. Michael Harris, United Steelworkers; Mr. Charles Mitchell, Quaker City Elks; Anti-Defamation League, B'nai B'rith; Magistrate Hobson R. Reynolds, the Chris J. Perry Lodge Elks; Food and Tobacco Amalgamated Union; Arthur Huff Fauset and the United People's Action Committee.

Louis McCabe of the Philadelphia Chapter, National Lawyers' Guild; Sylvia Balder, of the Wynnfield-Overbrook Community Council; Janet Holland, Mid-Legislative Conference; American Jewish Congress, Board of Jewish Ministers; Marjorie Penney, Fellowship House; Nathan Fleisher, radio commentator; Good Neighbors of Germantown; Philadelphia Citizens' Political Action Committee; Benjamin Pappell, executive secretary of the Independent CC of Arts and Sciences, and the Civil Rights Congress.

The following business men's associations: North Marshall Street, Poplar Street, South Street, Ridge Avenue, Columbia Avenue, and 52nd and Market Streets Associations. The Daily Worker and all the Negro press cooperated, the NAACP announced.

The Worker

File: 342 (2)(a)

Harlem Seethes at Ga. Lynchings; Huge Rallies Demand U. S. Action

New York, N. Y.

By John Hudson Jones

Daily Worker 7-29-46 - monday

Harlem seethed with bitter anger at the Georgia wave of terror against Negroes. Over the weekend thousands of people turned out for tremendous popular protests against the lynching of four Negroes and killing of another who dared to vote in Georgia's recent primaries.

The greatest outdoor mass meeting Harlem has seen in ten years took place Saturday night at 125 St. and Seventh Ave., sponsored by the Non-Partisan Committee for the Election of Charles A. Collins to the New York State Senate.

More than 5,000 persons showed their disgust and resentment over the Walton County murders.

Howard Johnson, a Purple Heart veteran who fought the Nazis with the Yugoslav Partisans opened the meeting with white-hot indignation.

"In all my war experience in Italy, never did I see or hear of anything as terrible as what happened in Georgia last Thursday," he said.

Johnson, who chaired the meeting, then brought on a battery of impassioned speakers who called for the occupation of Georgia by the U. S. Army and for the arrest and conviction of the Georgia lynchers and of Eugene Talmadge governor-elect who incited anti-Negro violence in the recent primaries.

One thousand five hundred people participated in a street corner rally at Fulton St. and Albany Ave. in Brooklyn, Saturday night.

The meeting was sponsored by the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of the Communist Party, 600 signatures were collected on a petition sent to President Truman demanding action to apprehend the lynchers. *

New York City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis spoke at the 125 St. meeting and in a stirring address told the 5,000 assembled there, **"this is the time for every self-respecting Negro to fight for his life."**

He reviewed the recent police atrocities against Negroes in Freeport, N. Y.; Columbia, Tenn.; Rockville Center, N. Y.; and New York City. The Georgia lynching, he said, was **"the beginning of an all-out war against the Negroes."**

Next Came Canada Lee who in a very warm but powerful speech urged the throng to **"help their people in the South."**

"We are a part of the South," he said. **"You cannot get away from it. Each of us has strings and ties in the South and if we in the North don't fight now, we will get the same thing that the men and their wives got last Thursday."**

Continuing the protest movement the National Negro Congress called an outdoor meeting of church people and their ministers Sunday in Dorrance Brooks Square, at 135 St. and Edgecombe Ave.

Dr. Max Yergan, president of NNC, chaired the meeting and told the gathering of 1,000, **"This is a solemn and grievous occasion, but we must steel our hearts and fight back against the forces of evil trying to beat down the Negro people.'**

Dr. Frank G. White, director of the People's Institute of Applied Religion, called upon all church people to demand **"justice from Truman."**

Demanding Federal troops in Georgia, Rev. A. Clayton Powell Jr. called upon Truman to protect the Negro people and pledged that he would fight in Congress to see that the lynchers were brought to justic.

Rev. Eugene Adair of the Mt. Morris Presbyterian Church said that he had seen such lynchings in the South and stated:

"I will not rest until my people are spared this terror and can live like decent American human beings."

Councilman Benjamin J. Davis lashed Truman and the Republican reactionaries who are "sitting idly by while we die." He, too, called for federal troops in Georgia and Mississippi and said that as in Poland "lynchers and pogromists should be lined up against the wall and shot like the fiendish dogs that they are."

Charles A. Collins, in an impassioned speech, told the 125 St. meeting: **"I will fight the Ku Kluxers and the Southern fascists to the end of my days, whether I am elected or not."**

He mentioned the killing of the Ferguson brothers in Freeport, and said:

"Dewey will be no better than Talmadge if he doesn't arrest Romeika and make him stand trial for his murder."

Mamie Battice, a fiery, elderly Negro woman and Communist leader in Harlem. spoke.

Leon Strauss of the Furriers Joint Board told of seeing Negro artillery men in the Battle of the Bulge disregard retreat orders to fire point blank at German tanks in order to save their white buddies and win the battle of Bastogne.

He declared that he was willing to give his blood again for the freedom of his former Negro buddies.

In a sudden and dramatic appearance, Rep. Vito Marcantonio eloquently shouted:

"We beat the German and Japanese fascists. We occupied Berlin and Tokyo. I tell you now we have got to occupy the lands of Talmadge and Bilbo."

National Negro Congress president Max Yergan told how the NNC had asked the United Nations to investigate the treatment of American Negroes. He said today's events were giving the American people two choices: **"One—to give the Negro people their freedom or, two—to try and kill democracy altogether."**

Rose Gaulden, Communist Party national committee member, called upon the Negro people to "learn about socialism, because capitalism has no place for us as equal Americans."

After 17 leading Negro and white trade unionists, progressives, professionals, Communists and churchmen had spoken, Howard Johnson proposed two resolutions:

1. That Federal troops be sent into the South to protect the Negro people.

2. That every Negro in the audience resolve to fight unceasingly for Negro rights by going to the coming primaries and voting for progressive candidates.

Ga. Killing Tops List of Attacks on Negro Vets

The massacre of four Georgia Negroes, including a Pacific war vet, July 25 is the latest of a terrible series of attacks on Negro war veterans. In a statement denouncing the Georgia KKK, the National Veterans Commission of the Communist Party cited the following record:

JANUARY, 1946—BIRMINGHAM, ALA.—Four Negro veterans killed in cold blood.

FEBRUARY 5, 1946—FREEPORT, L. I.—Two Negro veterans killed and a third wounded by a policeman who still is free, armed with a gun and boasts of the killing.

FEBRUARY 13, 1946—AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA—Isaac Woodward, three hours out of the Army separation center assaulted and his eyes gouged out by a policeman.

FEBRUARY 25, 1946—COLUMBIA, TENN.—Two Negroes, including one vet killed in a mob invasion of the Negro community after a Negro vet came to the assistance of his mother who was assaulted by a white storekeeper.

JULY 17, 1946—TAYLOR COUNTY, GA.—Macio Snipes, Negro vet, dragged from his home and killed by four men, the night following the state primaries. He was the only Negro to vote in Ruppert District.

"What the fascists failed to do in Europe the KKK did in Georgia," the statement of the National Veterans Commission charged.

The Communist vets call for resolutions, letters, telegrams to President Truman and Attorney General Clark demanding federal action now to end the lynch terror and apprehend the Georgia lychers.

Act Against Lynchers, Labor Heads Demand

Organized labor's shocked horror over the recent Georgia anti-Negro terror became vocal in New York yesterday as unionists called for far-reaching measures to bring the murderers to justice and prevent any recurrence of the act.

John Steuben, secretary-treasurer of the AFL Hotel Front Service Employes, Local 144, said:

"The brutal murder of five Negro citizens in the state of Georgia, among them two veterans and two women, is the most alarming development in our nation. This growing fascist-like violence against the Negro people, especially in the South, is the fruit of a Talmadge and Bilbo victoy.

"This mob violence will not be tolerated by organized labor. All labor organizations must unite in this fight against native fascism."

A joint statement was issued by David Livingston, organizational director, Local 65, CIO, Wholesale and Warehouse Workers, and Ewart Guinier, secretary-treasurer, CIO United PPublic Workers, New York district, and Leon Strauss, executive secretary, Fur Dressers and Dyers Joint Board.

"The outrageous murder of the four Negroes in Georgia is a fascist act," it said. "The German fascist atrocities were the same brutalization of the people of Europe as this lynching is of the people of the U. S. A.

"We fought our war against fascism to wipe out in our world these outrages. Our country bled, our soldiers sacrificed and our people won.

"But our war isn't over. The fascists have their counterparts in the Southern lynchers. We will not tolerate it. The labor movement demands action. We, the undersigned in the name of thousands of members of our unions, demand:

"1. Those responsible be caught and be put to death.

"2. President Truman order the attorney general and FBI to apprehend the criminals and bring them to trial.

"3. Governor must also act.

"4. The federal government must protect the Negro people. We demand that the Negro people be deputized and be armed.

"5. Impeach and arrest Talmadge and Bilbo who incited lynchers in their election campaign.

"6. Senators Mead and Wagner fight for Congress to pass the anti-lynching bill.

"We call on all workers to act with shop resolutions, telegrams and delegations to Truman and Clark and to Albany. As head of the Republican party, Gov. Dewey must bring his party behind the demand for justice in three lynchings.

"We pledge our support to the Negro people and will rally our members to fight back and to get justice."

GOV'T MUST STOP KLUXERS, NEW ORLEANS NMU DECLARES

NEW ORLEANS, La., July 28.—The National Maritime Union of this southern port demanded apprehension and prosecution of the Georgia lynchers last night.

A special meeting, attended by 396 members, wired President Truman, Attorney General Clark and Georgia Gov. Arnall to demand "that the Federal Government use all its resources to prosecute and tu suppress this Ku Klux Klanism, bigotry and race hatred."

Recalling that thousands of their shipmates gave their lives in the war to "save this country from despotism, dictatorship and tyranny," the Louisiana seamen blasted the murder of four Georgia Negroes as "outrageous, un-American, bestial."

Rally to Ask Ga. Justice Here Wed.

A rally to demand justice in the brutal lynchings of two Negroes and their wives in Georgia, will be held Wednesday, 5 p.m. in New York at Madison Square Park.

The meeting is sponsored by the National Negro Congress, the Civil Rights Congress of New York and AFL and CIO unions.

Robeson Asks Truman Action On Lynching

Paul Robeson, chairman of the Council on African Affairs. sent the following telegram in President Truman on the lynching of four Negroes in Georgia yesterday:

Just a few hours before your commendable message to Congress endorsing the ILO provisions for minimum working and living standards for peoples of colonial countries, four Negro- citizens of this country were lynched in cold blood. This is a matter of more than tragic irony. The Council on African Affairs demands that the Federal Government take immediate effective steps to apprehend and punish the perpetrators of this shocking crime and to halt the rising tide of lynch law. Only when our government has taken such action toward protecting its own citizens can its role in aiding the progress of peoples of other countries be viewed with trust and hope."

The Red-baiting Racket

—Turn to Magazine Section

The Worker

In 2 Sections Section 1

Vol. XI, No 31 August 4, 1946 28 Pages Price 10 Cents

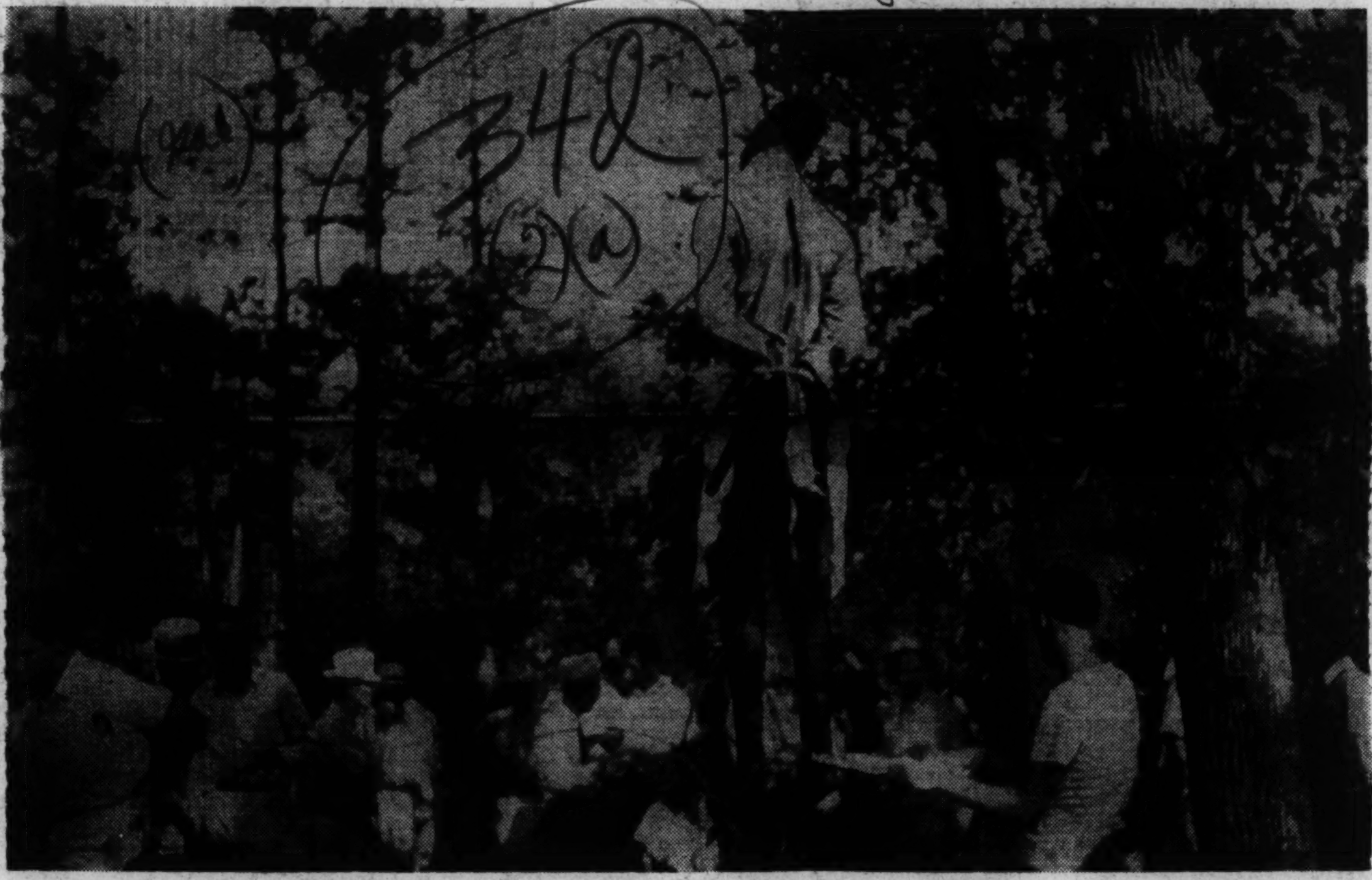
20 KILLERS AT LARGE

G-Men Have Georgia Clues a-plenty

—See Page 2

File 34d(2)(a)

The ~~Daily~~ Worker



Killers 'Unknown'? See Their Faces

Sun. 8-4-46

Do you see the happy smiling people in the picture? They feel fine. They have just murdered a Negro.

It happened at Ruston, Louisiana, eight years ago.

The killers were never brought to justice. The official verdict was "killed by persons unknown." As in the Georgia massacre.

New York N.Y.

Notice the children in the mob, too. They also have been taught to laugh at and enjoy the murder of a Negro.

This is the crime which is sweeping over America today. It is fanned by the Talmadges and Bilbos out in the open. It is financed and supported behind the scenes by the "best people" in the big banks and industrial corporations.

Sun 8-4-46

When they murder a Negro, they are murdering you.

For the Hitlerism which is raging against the Negro people will drown American democratic liberties if it is not stopped.

The crime against our Negro citizens and brothers is only the advance notice of what awaits every decent American—if it is not stopped. You must help stop it.

The Empty-Store Conspiracy

—See Back Page

Molotov Defends Big 4 Accords

—See Page 3

File: 34 d (2) (a)

Clues Are Many in the Georgia Crime

ARE THE G-MEN WILLING TO QUESTION THE MANY NEGRO AND WHITE WITNESSES?

By Art Shields The Worker

MONROE, Ga.—The trail of the Federal G-Men in pursuit of the lynchers who killed two young Negro sharecroppers and their brides Thursday evening, July 25, runs over red-rutted clay roads that wind between the cotton fields and the woods.

The trail runs to the doors of 20 or more unhooded mobsters, some of whom will crack up and talk if they are apprehended and questioned.

Some are said to be drinking and talking already.

At first sight, the trail does not seem very difficult to take—there are plenty of G-Men. A fraction of the men J. Edgar Hoover uses in checking up on workers' organizations could nail every mobster in Walton and Oconee Counties, it might well be believed.

Hundreds of Walton and Oconee County Negroes—and a good number of whites—are eager to aid the G-Men. The Negroes can be especially useful, for they know the potential killers. They know the sadists among the landlords and the landlords' stooges, who have beaten sharecroppers and threatened to kill.

Every one of these sadists is known to the Negro sharecroppers. They talk about them when friends get together. And the Negro people will give their names to the G-Men if assured of protection.

Sun ★ 8-4-46

SOME ARE READY to tell what they know even without full guarantees—they resent their oppression so much.

The sadists can be made to account for their movements on the massacre night—and fake alibis can be broken down by determined investigators.

Every cheating landlord, and this number is large, must also be questioned, for lynching is intended to prevent Negroes from asking for an accounting when the landlord says his tenant has nothing but debts or a measly few dollars after a big cotton crop. New York

One landlord, Loy Harrison, a big cotton planter, has admitted in my presence that federal men are "blaming" him in connection with the mass killing. N.Y.

Harrison drove the four victims to the death spot. He says he didn't know what was coming. He thought, when the mobsters stopped his car on the edge of a swamp 10 miles from Monroe, that they intended only to "lay a strap across their butts." So he said. The 20 killers blasted them instead with shotguns, pistols and rifles—in three volleys altogether.

★

HARRISON has a criminal record—he was convicted as a bootlegger under state and federal laws years ago. But, what is more to the point, he had quarreled with George Dorsey, one of the victims, who began cropping on his land last January after four years fighting in the Philippines and other Pacific war spots as a GI.

This landlord had not had a personal quarrel with Roger Malcolm, the other male victim. But other landlords had. Malcolm was in Oconee County jail on a charge of cutting landlord Hester in a fight.

Hester wasn't seriously hurt, and the charge wasn't proved. But Malcolm was known as a "man who wouldn't let himself be pushed around—who would fight for his rights," so one of his women relatives, whose name I can't quote for her own safety's sake, told me this week. And from the time of the sharecropper's arrest in the fight case it appears his doom had been sealed. Sunday 8-4-46

The lynching was "premeditated" long in advance, says Maj. William Spence, who has charge of the investigation for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Harrison bailed Malcolm out of the Oconee jail for $600—a ridiculous sum if he were really guilty of assault with a knife. He wanted more "hands," he declared. But he waited three hours—till darkness was nearing—before he took Malcolm from the jail in his car. And then he had the Dorseys and Malcolm's wife riding with him.

He denied at first that another car had been following him till a small boy who had seen it came forward. Several more cars were reported moving to the spot. But Harrison wouldn't identify the types of vehicles, nor any of the killers. New York

★

NO ONE I've talked to in Walton County believes the details of Harrison's story. That goes for whites and Negroes, preachers, business men, farmers and share croppers. But Negroes point out that Harrison may gain several hundred dollars on Dorsey's share of the cotton crop, which the lynched man cultivated but will never reap.

Dorsey's share was larger than usual because he had taken no subsistence credit from his landlord this year, but paid his way on veterans' checks.

Much obvious checking on suspects suggests itself. Bullets taken from the victims' bodies can be compared with seized guns. Still more bullets, some investigators believe, may be found if the bodies are disinterred and another inquest is made.

★

THERE ARE MANY CLUES—but the trail runs into big bumps. The landlords have powerful friends. Sen. Russell (D-Ga) is already protesting the outcry at the lynching. And Eugene Talmadge, the friend of the Klan, is moving into the State House next January. Sun. 8-4-46

Talmadge incited racial animosity all through his primary campaign—he pledged that no Negro would ever vote again in a Georgia primary after he was nominated.

This lynching and three other murders of Georgia Negroes followed quickly thereafter.

Other bumps on Georgia's red-rutted clay roads are nothing in comparison to the obstacles by this night-shirtist leader who leads the forces seeking to throw the Negro people back into slavery.

BROTHER AND SISTER VICTIMS OF LYNCHERS BURIED

FUNERAL OF LYNCH VICTIMS—The bodies of George Dorsey and his sister, Mrs. Dorothy Malcolm, two of the four victims of a lynch mob in Walton County, Ga., are lowered into their graves following church services. Their relatives, in hiding, didn't dare attend.

The Lynching Tree Has Long and Bloody Roots

By John Hudson Jones The Worker

There is terror abroad today. Bold and bloody it stalks, striking down veterans, murdering women. The cross is burning from the mountains of Georgia to the streets of Philadelphia. The mob is on the march against Americans.

In Georgia, the leader of the lynch mob was a "dignified-looking man," according to Loy Harrison, the white farmer who witnessed the killings. Now whether or not this man was a businessman or a school teacher, it is very safe to say he was a man of some considerable influence in Walton County, since nobody will talk.

Lynch terror in the South has long and bloody roots.

★

IN THE EARLY 1920s, in Aiken, S. C., where the Negro veteran Isaac Woodward had his eyes gouged out by a cop, an entire Negro family was lynched. The mother was pregnant. So sadistic were the lynchers that they cut open her stomach and smashed the unborn foetus.

In northern Arkansas, just across the Mississippi River, in 1934, a Negro was tied to several logs and slowly roasted to death. The Negro was so courageous he cursed and damned the lynchers even while burning.

In Duck Hill, Miss., two Negroes were tied to trees and slowly burned to death by slow torches in 1937.

Photographs of the last two lynchings show a crowd of grinning onlookers, including women and children.

Where before lawlessness and mob violence was incited by private individuals, today it comes from state and federal government officials. The mask is off.

Sun. ★ 8-4-46

A BILBO and a Talmadge openly call for mob violence, as part of their election campaigns. And when these fascist incitements have borne bitter fruit in Georgia and Mississippi, the President of the United States wants to ascertain whether or not "any federal statute has been violated."

This is not only an insult to the Negro people of the South, it is an exposure of the "justice" that the United States government is carrying to foreign peoples with bayonets and atomic bombs.

The lynching of Negroes runs through U.S. history just as anti-Semitism befouled the German people and helped open the way to fascism. New York,

An American people that continues to condone lynching by doing nothing about it is a weak and cowardly American people.

The wounds of the Negro people are deep. The knife has been plunged in countless times and has been twisted. N.Y.

Are the American people so shackled with the ball and chain of race hate and prejudice that they cannot save themselves from fascist slavery?

The rights of the Negro people are the first line of defense for democracy.

North and South Demand Death for Georgia Lynchers

The Worker

The nation boiled with revulsion this week when it heard news of the Georgia lynchings. Actions to stop the terror were begun almost immediately, along with the demand that the lynchers be apprehended and brought to trial. The death penalty was asked by gatherings of Negro, labor, civic, veterans and religious organizations.

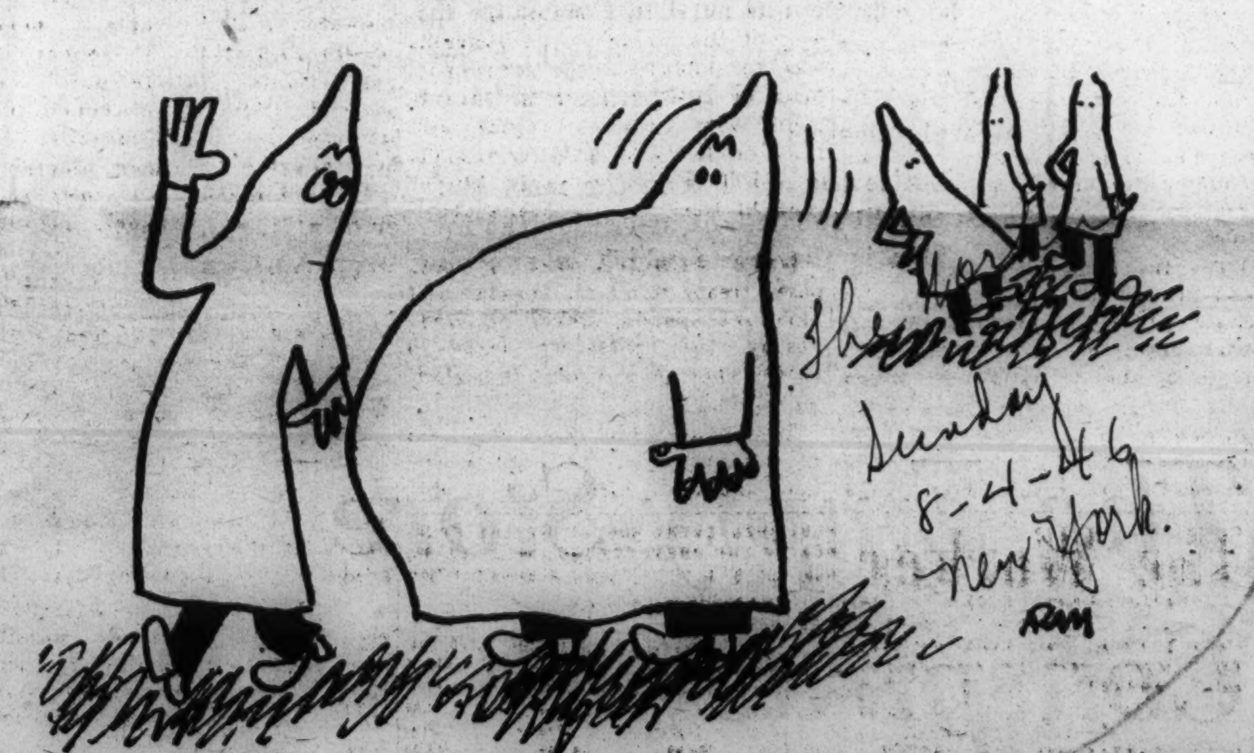
In Winston-Salem, N. C., 5,000 members of the CIO Food, Tobacco and Allied Workers, both white and Negro, wired President Truman to demand he step into the wholesale crimes and ferret out the guilty.

Sun. 8-4-46

Harlem seethed with rage. Three open-air meetings held over the weekend drew more than 7,000 people in all to hear leaders of the community, unionists, progressives, Communists, tell the Negro people to raise their voices in protest.

More than 1,000 people marched on Attorney General Tom Clark's offices in Washington, led by Dr. Max Yergan, of the National Negro Congress. They tried to see Truman, but got nowhere.

At Madison Square Park, in Manhattan, 3,000 persons demonstrated their disgust over the crimes and their impatience with federal authorities who had not yet apprehended the killers. The meeting was called by a wide variety of groups in New York. Among them were labor unions, the Communist Party, the New York Committee for Justice in Freeport and many others. N.Y.



"Hiya, Senator . . ."

The Worker Sunday 8-4-46 New York.

F.i 342 (2)(a) gen. RC

15,000 at Lincoln Shrine In Capital Protest Lynchings, Mourn For Victims

Sun 8-11-46

By W. C. Taylor

34 (2)(a)

gen

LAST RESPECTS FOR LYNCH VICTIMS—*A Naval Color Guard, consisting of Cox. Kermit M. Lane, Steward's Mate 1/c James Hopkins and Stew. Mate 1/c Walter B. Woodland pay their last respects to the victims of the lynch wave. At their feet are wreaths placed by more than 50 organizations that joined in the services held at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington.* —Scurlock photo

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Washington saw one of the largest protest demonstrations since the now famous Marian Anderson concert that, coincidentally, was held at the same spot, at the shrine to Abraham Lincoln—the Lincoln Memorial.

The Worker

Fifteen thousand Negro and white people marched behind nine disabled Negro veterans from Walter Reed Hospital up Constitution Avenue from 9th Street to the Memorial. There wreaths from 30 District of Columbia organizations, including the Communist Party, were laid at the feet of Abraham Lincoln's statue in memory of those who died in recent months in Freeport, L. I., Columbia, Tenn.; Hattiesburg and Jackson, Miss., and Monroe, Ga., as a result of fascist lynch terror.

"It is fitting," said Dr. Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, "that we are meeting at the shrine of a man who has done more for the south than any Southerner."

New York, N.Y.

Dr. Foreman called on President Truman and Secretary of State Byrnes to safeguard America freedoms as well as world freedoms.

★

CHARLES HOUSTON, Negro atorney representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, called for unity of Northerners and Southerners to meet the lynching problem.

Dr. Max Yergan, president of the National Negro Congress, outlined four points necessary to stop the wave of lynch terror. He called for a special session of Congress for immediate passage of a Federal anti-lynch and anti-poll tax law; for the Federal Government to act on the finding of the perpetrators of murder and punish them; for Congress to refuse to seat Bilbo and for the Federal Government to take steps to keep Talmadge from being seated as Governor of Georgia; and finally for the Federal Governments and courts to bring Bilbo and Talmadge to the bars of justice and try them for their incitement to murder and mob violence just as the Nazis are being tried in Nuernberg.

Negro and white GIs, said Richard Bancroft, leader of the Washington chapter of United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, fought together to defeat fascism, and will not see it arise here in America.

"Bilbo," he added, "must not be allowed to become mayor of Washington unofficially or otherwise.

Frank Jackson, of the Washington American Veterans Committee, who hails from Arkansas, declared: "As a southerner I feel a deeper sense of shame and anger than do people of other sections of the country."

★

HENRY BEITSCHER, president of the Washington Industrial Union Council, CIO, called for Washingtonians not only to mourn but to work for the abolishment of the Jimcrow system which breeds lynchings. He called for full support to the CIO's fight to abolish Jimcrowism in the Washington USES and urged the assembled audience to turn out to picket the Labor Department. He also asked for the picketing of radio station WOL when Senator Bilbo is scheduled to speak on Friday.

E. S. Gratton of the Washington Typographical Union, AFL, urged support of the drive of organized labor in the south and pointed out that those who lynch Negroes lynch white labor leaders next.

Sun 8-11-46

Other speakers were Dr. Joseph L. Johnson, chairman, Washington chapter, Southern Conference for Human Welfare; Rev. R. W. Brooks, Washington Ministerial Union, and Rev. Albert T. Mollegan of the Virginia Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

34e 1946 Georgia (Monroe, Walton County)

7309

Georgia 'Justice' Frees Lynchers

Defender Chicago, Ill. 12-28-46-Sat.

ATHENS, Ga.—(NNPA)—A federal grand jury reported Thursday after a three-week investigation, inability to establish the identity of any person guilty of participating in the mass lynchings of two men and their wives near Monroe, Ga., about 40 miles east of Atlanta, last July 25.

Receiving the report, Federal Judge T. Hoyt Davis refused to discharge the jury but ruled it would be recessed "subject to recall." Defender

The victims of the lynchings were Roger Malcolm and his wife and George Dorsey and his wife. The crime was followed by offers of rewards for the arrest and conviction of the mob members which now total more than $30,000. Sat.

In a carefully phrased statement, the jury said it had centered its attention "on establishing the identity of individuals" connected with the lynchings. 12-28-46

The jury, consisting of twenty-one white men and two colored, was told by Judge Davis that "in this situation, I have concluded that it is not the wise thing at this time for me to discharge this grand jury. Chicago, Ill.

"It has been a voluminous matter and it may be that additional information could or will be brought to light," the judge said, "and if that situation should arrive . . . I would want this grand jury to hear the matter."

Members Unanimous Defender

The grand jury had reported:

"The members of this body are unanimous in reporting that we have been unable to establish the identity of any person or persons participating in the murders or in any violation of the civil rights statutes of the United States."

The investigation began December 3, and approximately 100 witnesses were examined, telling what they knew—or didn't know—about the bloody assassinations at Apalachee bridge. The jury also considered evidence obtained by more than a score of the Federal Bureau of Investigation agents who questioned more than 2,500 persons in Monroe and rural Walton and Oconee Counties in four months since the crime. One man—George Alvin Adcock, a resident of Walton County—was indicted earlier last week for perjury. He was accused of falsely testifying of his whereabouts July 25-26, but the incident did not connect him with the lynching. 12-28-46

Loy Harrison, wealthy Walton County land-owner, told officers a mob of about 20 armed, unmasked men stopped his car at dusk as he was about to cross the Apalachee River en route to his farm. Two farmhands and their wives were taken from his automobile, he related, and marched down a wagon track to a thicket, where they were shot down. Harrison said he was allowed to go after saying he was unable to recognize anyone in the mob.

LYNCHING INQUIRY STILL ON

34e Sat.

U. S. Will Continue Investigating Murder of Four Negroes

The Times

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 — The Justice Department said today that it would continue its investigation into the slaying of four Negroes by an armed band at Monroe, Ga., last July 25. Sun.

A Federal grand jury recently reported it was unable to establish identity of any person involved in the slayings. A Justice Department spokesman said, however, that this did not make the case a dead issue.

The spokesman, who declined use of his name, said, "the investigation will continue." He refused to elaborate. New York, N.Y.

Roger Malcolm and his wife and George Dorsey and his wife were the four farm-hand victims of the mob action which followed the stabbing of a white man, Barney Hester, 22, on July 14. 12-

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Grand Jury Fails to Identify Any Lynchers

34e

Athens, Ga., Dec. 19 (AP) — A federal grand jury reported today after a three-week investigation that it was unable to establish the identity of any persons guilty of participating in the mass lynching of four Negroes in near-by Walton County last July 25. The Courier-Journal

Receiving the report, U. S. Judge T. Hoyt Davis refused to discharge the jury, but ruled it would be recessed "subject to recall." Louisville, Ky.

The victims of the lynching were Roger Malcolm and his wife and George Dorsey and his wife.

The brutal crime was followed by offers of rewards for the arrest and conviction of the mob members. These offers now total more than $30,000. Fri. 12-20-46

In a carefully phrased statement the jury said it had centered its attention "on establishing the identity of individuals" connected with the slaying near Monroe, about 40 miles east of Atlanta.

The 21 white and two Negro members of the jury were told by Judge Davis that "In this situation I have concluded that it is not the wise thing at this time for me to discharge this grand jury."

"It has been a voluminous matter and it may be that additional information could or will be brought to light," the judge said. "And if that situation should arrive . . . I would want this grand jury to hear the matter."

A Crime

34e

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Sat. 12-21-46

THE federal grand jury which was investigating the lynch massacre of two Negroes and their wives down in Monroe, Ga., has closed up shop.

"Can't find out who did it," they calmly report.

To us, this cynical whitewash of the 20 or so murderers of that county is as shameful as the gruesome murder itself.

Four families control the plantation county where the murders were committed last July 25. Everyone knows the leading lights of that half-slave area. Everyone knows who would be in on a mass killing like that.

The facts are available. The trail of blood is wide and easy to follow. What has been missing is the will to smash down the wall of "white supremacy" savagery behind which the facts are hidden.

If the government at Washington rests content with this whitewash, public opinion will know what its reasons are. The law-enforcement agencies will share in the guilt.

Hard To Believe, Even in Georgia

The Call Kansas City, Mo.

It is incredible that, even in Georgia, after questioning more than 2,500 persons, neither the FBI nor the federal grand jury could find any trace of the guilty parties in the mass lynching of two men and their wives near Monroe, Ga., last July. 34e Fri. 12-27-46

A three-week investigation ended in no indictments, but nobody believes that out of 2,500 persons in the immediate vicinity of the lynching, nobody knows who killed Mr. and Mrs. George Dorsey and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Malcolm.

The white man who was with the two couples at the time they were lynched knows more than he has told. The information can be obtained from those who know if the proper protection is given them. Down in Sikeston, Mo., just after Christmas a few years ago, the authorities claimed they were unable to trace the identity of the lynchers of Cleo Wright, although Negro residents of the southeast Missouri town knew by name the men guilty of this atrocious crime. Representatives of this newspaper went into Sikeston the day after the lynching and found Negroes who could testify as to the identity of the lynchers but of course they feared to do so unless they were offered protection. That protection was never forthcoming and the lynchers of Cleo Wright to this day have gone unpunished. 12-27-46

The same situation probably is true today in Monroe, Ga. Somebody there knows who some of the members of last summer's mob were. They could be induced to tell but they would have to be brought out of Georgia into some other state and given protection from bodily harm.

In refusing to dismiss the jury, the judge in the case must feel that the investigation has not been satisfactorily completed. We hope that he will demand that the job be finished and that the guilty parties be ferretted out. To whitewash a lynching as flagrant and cruel as this one in which two innocent women were victims is unthinkable, even in Georgia.

THE SILENT INDICTMENT

The Times Sat. 12-21-46

34e Sat.

Five months ago two young Negroes and their wives were lined up near a secluded road in Georgia and slaughtered by a band of twenty unmasked white men. One of these Negroes had just been freed in bond on charges of stabbing his employer, who has since recovered. The other Negro man had just returned from five years' service in the United States Army. He and the two Negro women merely had the misfortune to be present when the mob appeared; one of the women is believed to have recognized a member of the lynching mob, for she cried out a name and thus signed her death warrant. Now a Federal grand jury composed of twenty-one white persons and two Negroes, which has been hearing evidence for nearly three weeks, has finished its inquiry. It has been unable to establish the identity of a single member of the gang that committed this quadruple murder, although it examined about one hundred witnesses, including the farmer from whose car the victims were taken to be shot to death while they pleaded piteously for their lives. Also presented was the evidence of a staff of twenty or more agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, sent in at the direction of President Truman and the Attorney General.

It is a mortifying and depressing conclusion to this case, if this is really the end. The death cries of these Negroes will not cease to ring in the ears of decent people of South and North with the jury's finding of no true bill. For this jury silently brings in also, through its very failure to find the guilty, a scathing indictment: of cowardly human nature that declined to name the guilty, either through bigoted hatred of the Negro race or from fear of reprisal or self-incrimination; of Georgia law enforcement agencies that may or may not have proceeded too timidly or too tardily to gather and preserve the essential evidence, so that even the FBI, with its almost fabulous record of success in other difficult cases, is now forced to confess in this case that with all its science of detection it cannot find the criminals, although it has not yet given up the hunt. We do not attempt here to say wh individual, group or agency should be named in this silent impeachment for failure to apprehend. But we the people of the United States are certainly named in it until such lynchings stop and we eradicate the condition well described by a Georgia preacher: "There's an ignorant class of people who have just grown up to hate, and they make the trouble." New York [illegible]

Price to Kill

34e 2el

The News and Courier

The cost of killing a negro in Illinois when nine farmers are accused of it and enter no plea that they did not kill him appears to be $200 for each of the nine. Wed. 12-11-46 That is the gist of a dispatch from Danville, that state, in which are no "lynchings". Had the negro been put to death by nine men in Tennessee it might have been defined a lynching, and if it had been an occurrence in Bilbonia it surely would have been that, no more and no less. The fines were imposed upon the nine citizens accused of killing the negro veteran who, the allegation is, "frightened several farm women by peering into the windows of their homes". Howe'er it be that there are no lynchings in Illinois the civilization of that commonwealth has points of resemblance with that of the neighborhood of Monroe, state of Arnallia. Charleston, S.C.

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9 Farmers Fined In Slaying Of Negro Veteran In Illinois

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Danville, Ill., Dec. 9 (AP)—Nine farmers of near-by Paris, Ill., were fined $200 each today by Federal Judge Walter C. Lindley on charges which developed from the fatal shooting of a Negro war veteran near Paris more than four years go. Tues. 12-10-46

The farmers declined to admit or contest the charges of conspiring to violate the Civil Rights Act by depriving a man of his life and liberty without due process of law.

34e 2el

The nine also were assessed the cost of prosecution.

Sheriff Wasn't Present.

On a Government motion Judge Lindley dismissed similar charges against Sheriff John Trierwiler of Terre Haute, Ind., James Elliott, and Herbert Beasley, deputies, and Pearl Miller, a former deputy.

Ray Foreman, assistant district attorney, said charges against the sheriff and deputies should be dismissed because they were not present at the scene, but that the nine farmers were present.

The Government charged that James E. Person, a Tennessee Negro who had been discharged honorably from the Navy, was shot to death in October, 1942, by a posse of farmers who alleged Person had been peering into the windows of farmhouses. His body was found in a cornfield west of the Illinois-Indiana state line November 26, 1942.

W. M. Acton, defense counsel, told Judge Lindley the nine farmers were "the cream of the community" and that they "would have been mice, not men, if they hadn't tried to apprehend the man who was frightening their women and children."

The farmers fined were Ernest Poynter, Guy Morris, Martin Kiado, James Houston, Ed Garwood, Kenneth and Errett Bozarth, Hubert R. Tweedy, and Charles Price.

Farmer-Killers of Vet 4 Years Ago Fined $200 Each

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.
Sat. 12-21-46 34e

DANVILLE, Ill. — (ANP) — Nine white farmers, found guilty of conspiring to violate federal civil rights acts by depriving Negro veteran of his life and liberty without due process of law, were fined $200 each in Federal Judge Walter C. Lindley's court here last Monday. At the same time, Judge Lindley dismissed conspiracy charges against a sheriff, two deputies and a former deputy, upon evidence that they were not at the scene of the shooting.

Victim of the shooting was 33-year-old James Edward Person, of Somerville, Tenn. Pearson, who had been honorably discharged from the navy, was said to have been living in the woods in the vicinity of the Illinois-Indiana border and engaged in frightening farm families by pering into their windows.

According to defense Counsel W. M. Acton, "Pearson had been carrying a hammer and loitering in this community seeking food and water at various houses."

Sheriff John Trierwiler testified that 10 days prior to the shooting, he and his deputies, James Elliott and Herbert Beasley, and former Deputy Pearl Miller, had received reports from worried farmers about the presence of a "wild man" in the woods. A search of the woods failed to net the capture or even a sight of Pearson.

On Oct. 12, 1942, a group of farmers, beating through the woods in Vigo county, Indiana, saw Person and fired at him. Later that day, he was sighted by another group a mile inside the Illinois line and was fired upon again. Both groups broke up without being able to apprehend the fugitive, but on Nov. 26, his body, riddled with 60 shotgun slugs and one bullet, was found on James Strickler's farm in Edgar county, Ill.

34e 2el

The farmers and sheriff officers were indicted July 13, 1943, by a federal grand jury at East St. Louis, Ill. The men fined pleaded nolo contendere, and declined to contest charges of civil rights violation. Those fined were Ernest Poynter, Guy Morris, Martin Kiado, James Houston, Ed Garwood, Kenneth and Errett Bozarth, Hubert R. Tweedy, and Charles Price all of near Paris, Ill.

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9 Whites Fined for Killing Veteran

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

DANVILLE, Ill. (ANP)—Nine white farmers were found guilty of conspiring to violate Federal civil rights acts by depriving a Navy veteran of his life and liberty without due process of law and were fined $200 each in Federal Court here last week. Sat.

At the same time, Judge Walter C. Lindley, presiding, dismissed conspiracy charges against a sheriff, two deputies and a former deputy, upon evidence that they were not at the scene of the shooting.

34e 2el

Victim of the shooting, which occurred in 1942, was James E. Person, 33, of Somerville, Tenn., who defense counsel said had been living in the woods in the vicinity of the Illinois-Indiana border and frightening farm families by peering into their windows. Baltimore, Sat. 12-21-46 Md.

Riddled with 60 Shots

Sighted by several groups, Person had been shot at several times between Oct. 12, 1942, and Nov. 26, when his body, riddled with 60 shotgun slugs and one bullet was found on a farm in Edgar County, Ill. The Afro-American

The farmers who, along with the police officers, were indicted on July 13, 1943, by a Federal Grand Jury at East St. Louis, Ill., are Ernest Poynter, Guy Morris, Martin Kiade, James Houston, Ed Garwood, Kenneth and Errett Bozarth, Hubert R. Tweedy and Charles Price, all of Paris, Ill.

NINE FINED $200 EACH IN SLAYING OF NEGRO

The Times
New York, N.Y.

DANVILLE, Ill., Dec. 9 (AP)—Nine farmers of Paris, Ill., were fined $200 each and assessed costs today by Federal Judge Walter C. Lindley on charges which developed from the fatal shooting of a Negro war veteran near Paris more than four years ago. The defendants declined to admit or contest the charges, which were conspiracy to violate the Civil Rights Act by depriving a man of his life and liberty without due process of law. Tues. 12-10-46

On Government motion, Judge Lindley dismissed similar charges against Sheriff John Trierwiler of Terre Haute, Ind.; James Elliott and Herbert Beasley, deputies, and Pearl Miller, a former deputy. Ray Foreman, assistant district attorney, said charges against the sheriff and deputies should be dismissed because they were not present at the scene, but that the nine farmers were.

The Government charged that James E. Person, a Tennessee Negro who had been discharged honorably from the Navy, was shot to death in October, 1942, by a posse of farmers who alleged Person had been peering into the windows of farmhouses and frightening farm wives and children.

[From Late Editions of Yesterday's Times.]

NINE FINED $200 EACH IN SLAYING OF NEGRO

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The Government charged that James E. Person, a Tennessee Negro who had been discharged honorably from the Navy, was shot to death in October, 1942, by a posse of farmers who alleged Person had been peering into the windows of farmhouses and frightening farm wives and children.

Indiana Sheriff, 12 Others Indicted In Mob Murder

Defender
Chicago, Ill. 34e (1942)
Sat. 11-30-46

DANVILLE, Ill.—A former Indiana sheriff, three of his deputies and nine Illinois farmers will face trial in Federal District court here, Dec. 9, on charges growing out of the murder of Negro war veteran, James E. Persons, 33, in October, 1942.

The 13 are charged with conspiracy to deprive Persons of his life without due process of law, under the U. S. Civil Rights statute. Persons' shattered body was found in a cornfield a mile from the Indiana state line, pierced by 60 shotgun slugs and one bullet, Nov. 26, 1942.

The government charges that a posse chased Persons to the field 44 days earlier, and shot him to death. Persons, an honorably discharged veteran from Tennessee, allegedly had frightened several nearby farm families by peering through their windows.

Under an indictment returned at East St. Louis, in 1943, John Trierwiler, former Vigo County, Ind. sheriff; James Elliott, Herbert Beasley, and Pearl Miller, all former deputies of Terre Haute, are charged with the crime. Held responsible along with them are Ernest Poynter, Guy Morris, Martin Kiado, James Houston, Ed. Garwood, Kenneth and Errett Bozarth, Hubert R. Tweedy, and Charles Price, all farmers of Route 1, Paris, Ill.

Used

7439

U.S. Jury Indicts 6 in Louisiana Lynching

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Sat. 10-19-46

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18 (UP).—The Justice Department today announced a Federal Grand Jury has indicted six men in connection with the lynching of one Negro and beating of another by a mob at Minden, La., in August.

The indictments were in connection with the mob killing of John C. Jones, 28, an oil refinery worker and the beating of Albert Harris Jr., 17. The lynching occurred Aug. 8, after the Negroes had been turned over to a mob in the jailyard of the Webster Parish jail. They had just been released from the jail.

The indictment, in three counts, was returned by the grand jury at Monroe, La., yesterday and was sealed until five defendants had been arrested and the sixth announced he would surrender.

Indicted under the civil rights statutes were V. Geary Gantt, Minden police chief; Charles Edwards and O. H. Haynes Jr., both Webster Parish deputy sheriffs; Samuel Maddry, Sr., H. E. Perry and W. D. "Slim" Perkins, who were not otherwise identified.

Albert Harris, Jr., victim of the six indicted, and his father made the trip to Monroe, La., to testify to the federal grand jury, closely guarded by a number of U.S. marshals, to protect them against the Ku Klux Klan violence prevalent in that area.

Justice Dept. Acts In Louisiana Lynching

PM New York, N.Y.

The Justice Dept. announced the indictment, under Civil Liberties statutes, of six men in connection with the lynching of John G. Jones, 28, and the beating of Albert Harris, 17, by a mob of Minden, La., in August. Defendants include the Minden police chief, V. Geary Gantt, and two deputy sheriffs, Charles Edwards and O. H. Haynes, Jr. Sun. 10-20-46

The two Negroes, questioned in connection with an attempt to break into the home of a white woman, were seized by the mob shortly after their release from the Webster Parish Jail at Minden. Jones's badly beaten body was recovered from a bayou.

Columbus, Ga., Ledger
October 21, 1946

olice Chief Bille
n Negro Lynching

MINDEN, La., Oct. 21—(U.P.)—Police Chief B. Geary Gantt, of this North Louisiana town, is the sixth man indicted in connection with the August lynching of Albert Harris, 28-year-old Negro, and the mob beating of another negro.

Gantt was taken into custody after yesterday's announcement at Washington that six men had been indicted by the federal grand jury in Monroe, La. Five others including Deputies Sheriff Charles Edwards and O. H. Haynes Jr., were booked earlier.

Gantt was released at Shreveport, La., last night under $500 bond. He and the deputies were charged with depriving the Negroes of their constitutional rights by "causing them to be released and handed over to a mob."

Other defendants are oilfield workers Samuel Maddry Sr., H. E. Perry, and W. D. Perkins.

Indicted Under Civil Statutes

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Police Chief, Two Sheriff's Aides Held

Sat. 10-26-46

VET, 28, VICTIM

La. Woman Failed to Make Formal Charge

WASHINGTON

Six white men, three of them police officers, were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in the lynching of John C. Jones and the beating of Albert Harris at Minden, La., in Aug., the Department of Justice announced on Oct. 18.

The indictment, which contained three counts, was sealed until five of the men were arrested and the sixth, Police Chief V. Geary Gantt of Minden, had promised to surrender on Oct. 18.

The other five, indicted under Federal Civil Rights statutes, are:

O. H. Haynes Jr. and Charles Edwards, both deputy sheriffs of Webster Parrish, La.; Samuel Maddry Sr., H. E. Perry and W. D. (Slim) Perkins.

Arraignment Nov. 4

The six men will be arraigned in Federal court in Shreveport, La., on Nov. 4, the same day on which Lynwood L. Shull, police chief of Batesburg, S.C., will face hearing in Columbia, S.C., for the blinding of Isaac Woodard, N.Y. veteran, on Feb. 12.

Jones, a 28-year-old veteran, and Harris, his 17-year-old cousin, had been turned over to a mob in the yard outside the Webster Parrish jail.

The two had been arrested after a white woman said that a man had tried to break into her house. They had been released when she failed to make a formal charge.

Counts Against Officers

The first count in the Federal indictment charges Haynes, Edwards, Maddry and Perkins with violating the conspiracy section of the Federal Civil Rights statute—injuring and oppressing Jones and Harris in the exercise and enjoyment of rights secured to them under the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The second count charges the three officers, Haynes, Edwards and Gantt with violating the section of the Civil Rights statute forbidding the deprivation of constitutional rights by persons acting "under color of law."

The count specified that they subjected Jones and Harris to deprivation of rights secured by the Fourteenth Amendment by causing the men to be released and handed over to a mob who beat them, causing the death of Jones and seriously injuring Harris.

The third count charges Haynes, Edwards, Maddry, Perry and Perkins with conspiring to violate the section of the Civil Rights statute forbidding deprivation of rights "under color of law" by causing Jones and Harris to be handed over to the mob to be beaten and maimed without a lawful trial.

Turned Over to Mob

Jones and Harris had been held in the Minden jail from July 31 to Aug. 8. During that time, Harris had allegedly been subjected to beatings and intimidations in an effort to make him implicate Jones in some alleged offense.

The two men were released on Aug. 8 from the Webster Parrish jail and handed over to a mob waiting with automobiles in the jail yard of Webster Parrish jail.

The body of Jones was later found in a wooded area near Minden. Harris, who had been left for dead after a brutal beating, survived and fled from Louisiana.

FBI Conducted Probe

The evidence presented to the grand jury was secured following an investigation instituted by the civil rights section of the Department of Justice and conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Afro-American

U.S. Attorney Malcolm Lafargue urged the presentation of this matter to the grand jury and conducted the grand jury proceedings which resulted in the indictment. Baltimore, Md.

Survivor Brought Back

Albert Harris Jr., the surviving victim of the mob violence, together with his father, was brought to Monroe, La., from the Northern State where they had taken refuge in the protective custody of a United States marshal. Sat. 10-26-46

Jones's body, found on the bank of a bayou near here on Aug. 9, was marked with slashes and bruises, which Deputy Coroner Thomas Richardson said apparently had been inflicted by a flat object, such as a wide leather belt or a thick plank.

A coroner's jury attributed death to "multiple bruises and abrasions at the hands of a person or persons unknown." Sheriff Haynes said he had no clues and that he would not ask for State or Federal aid in his investigation.

Sheriff's Aides Negligent

Attaches of the sheriff's office said Harris reported that he and Jones were accosted by "some white men" behind the jail shortly after being freed.

The sheriff said he had heard "about a little disturbance" behind the jail shortly after the two men were released, and that someone reported he heard a voice pleading, "Please don't take me."

Harris said he and Jones were forced into different cars, but he didn't know what happened to Jones because he had been knocked unconscious by a head blow shortly after entering the car.

Sheriff Haynes said he couldn't recall" the name of the white woman who made the complaint about Jones. He added that Jones had a large collection of pictures of "nude white women" in his pocket when the body was found.

U.S. Court Charges Mob In Vet Slaying

Hold Louisiana Official Killers On Federal Counts

SHREVEPORT, La. — Six whites, including a chief of police and two deputy sheriffs, charged with violating the civil rights of a Negro war veteran by burning him with a blow torch and afterwards beating and shooting him to death, were arraigned here in federal court last week.

All six pleaded not guilty of violating the civil rights of John C. Jones, 28, whom they brutally murdered in August after beating and leaving for dead also his young cousin, Albert Harris. Harris lived to give testimony against the mob, charging Minden's police chief Benjamin O. Gantt with turning Jones over to the mobsters.

Held For Trial

Federal district court held all six for trial on federal charges, though Gantt was released on $500 bond. Others who appeared with him were Deputy Sheriffs Charles M. Edwards and Oscar H. Hayes Jr., and three oil field workers, Harry Edward Perry, Samuel Clinton Maddry, and Willie Drayton.

Held under $5,000 bond were the five who made up the summertime motor cavalcade which awaited in Minden's jail yard for the Chief of Police to hand over the young veteran for lynching.

Jones and Harris had been held in the jail from July 31 to Aug. 8, while Harris was tortured to induce him to give false testimony involving his cousin in the South's favorite excuse for fascist violence, "insulting a white woman." The five white fiends were determined to show Jones guilty of entering Maddry's home for the purpose of insulting the oil worker's wife.

Torture Fails

When torture failed to obtain a confession from either of the two in jail, they were released by Gantt, though it is charged that he was fully aware that a mob awaited the veteran in the yard. The white men applied a blow torch to the body of the veteran, beat him mercilessly and finally shot him. Having beaten Harris unconscious they abandoned him for dead.

According to Malcolm LaFargue, U. S. District attorney in charge of the case, no date has been set for the trial but it will be held when case preliminaries have been concluded.

Police Chief Cleared In La. Lynching Case

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

34e

SHREVEPORT, La. — (ANP) —Benjamin G. Gantt, chief of police of Minden, La., was exonerated here recently of charges of depriving two Water Valley men of civil liberties by turning them over to a mob on Aug. 8.

The case is the result of the lynching of John C. Jones and the beating of 17-year-old Albert Harris Jr., after the two had been released from jail on charges of attempting to enter the home of a white woman. 12-14-46

Clear Police Chief In La. Lynching Case

The Louisiana Weekly

New Orleans, La.

Sat. 12-7-46

34e

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Shreveport, La., Dec. 4.—Benjamin Geary Gantt, chief of police of Minden, La., was exonerated here Wednesday of charges of depriving two Water Valley Negroes of civil liberties by turning them over to a mob on Aug. 8.

Brought into the case as one of six defendants, U. S. District Judge Ben C. Dawkins exonerated Gantt after District Attorney Malcom E. LaFargue said "the government is satisfied that Gantt is not in any way implicated in the affair." The charges against the Minden police chief were dropped with the consent of the U. S. Attorney General, LaFargue told the court.

The case is the result of the lynching of John C. Jones and the beating of 17-year-old Albert Harris Jr., after the two had been released from jail on charges of attempting to enter the home of a white woman. Jones, a veteran of World War II, was beaten and tortured with an acetylene torch. His battered and burned body was found the next morning after he was released.

WHITE MISSISSIPPI JURY FREES 5 IN DEATH OF NEGRO

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Thurs. 10-24-46

LEXINGTON, Miss., Oct. 23.—Five white men accused of manslaughter in the flogging death of a Negro tenant farmer were freed yesterday—two by directed verdicts. The three others were found innocent by an all-white Holmes County Circuit Court jury after 10 minutes.

34e

The men had been charged with fatally whipping Leon McAtee, 35, over the theft of a saddle. Two other men later confessed the theft. They admitted whipping him, but "not enough to cause death."

HAZLEHURST, Miss., Oct. 23.—Sheriff R. L. Miller said today that three men, including a justice of the peace, would be brought into court here Oct. 30 on charges of kidnaping two Negro brothers last Sunday.

Involved are Justice of the Peace J. B. Bell and Private Detective Dan Goodlin, both of Jackson, Miss., and J. N. Griffith, a Copiah County merchant.

34e

Miller said the trio took Dude and Sammy Williams from their home in Copiah County and transported them to Lincoln County at gunpoint. He said in Brookhaven, Sammy Williams was charged with attempted burglary at Griffith's home.

"These men from another county took action on suspicion without notifying my office," Miller said. "And I have charged Bell also with beating Sammy Williams. I have been unable to find any evidence that supports the charge of burglary."

N.Y. Times Denounces Acquittal of Five Miss. Murder Suspects

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Freeing of five white men in ten minutes by a jury at Lexington (Miss.), in the mysterious death of a colored farm hand, Leon McAtee, was condemned here last Thursday by the New York Times in a searching editorial which said in part:

34e

"Americans in civilized communities both north and south, do not understand this sort of thing. They cannot make it fit with the constitution, the bill of rights, or the common and statutory law. It does not look like due process. Sat. 11-2-46

"Nor can an American explain such things to foreigners, who want to know why we can be so zealous for democracy and human rights abroad when some of us care so little for them at home. The only answer we can give is that civilization in this country still has dark spots."

Woman Editor Fined For Contempt Of Court

The News Birmingham, Ala.

Tues. 10-29-46

LEXINGTON, Miss., Oct. 29—(AP)—Hazel Brannon, editor of two county newspapers, was found guilty of contempt of court by Judge S. F. Davis in Holmes Circuit Court here yesterday.

The judge reprimanded her for talking to a witness whom the court had instructed to discuss her testimony with no one, and then fined Miss Brannon $100 and sentenced her to 30 days in jail.

34e

Later he reduced the fine to $50 and the sentence to 15 days imprisonment and suspended the sentence and fine on good behavior for two years.

Miss Brannon announced she will appeal her conviction to the Mississippi Supreme Court.

Miss Brannon, editor of The Lexington (Miss.) Advertiser and The Durant (Miss.) News, was arrested last week on a writ of information which charges she talked with the state witness.

The editor explained that, as a result of certain editorials she had carried in her two newspapers as part of a campaign for better law enforcement, relations with the sheriff's office had been strained for some time. She said she did not realize the court had instructed the witness to talk to no one and that when she heard the order repeated by a deputy sheriff, she thought it was an unauthorized order from the sheriff and did not know it was a repetition of an order from the court.

The witness was Henrietta McAtee, wife of Leon McAtee, Negro, whose body was found floating in a bayou July 24, two days after he had been whipped by a group of white men attempting to recover a saddle they said they believed McAtee had stolen. The white men were found innocent of charges of manslaughter.

Mississippians Freed In Death Of Negro

The News Birmingham, Ala.

LEXINGTON, Miss., Oct. 23—(AP)—A Holmes County jury last night found five men innocent of a manslaughter charge in the death of a Negro who one of the defendants admitted had been beaten two days before the body was found. Wed.

34e

The beaten body of the Negro farm hand, Leon McAtee, was found floating in a bayou July 24. Earlier he had been charged with the theft of a saddle from Jeff Dodd, Sr., cotton planter, and had been released into Dodd's custody when the charge was withdrawn.

Found innocent were Dodd, his son, Jeff Dodd, Jr., of Jackson, Miss.; Dixie Roberts of Greenwood, Miss.; Roberts' nephew, James Roberts, 19, and Spencer Ellis.

34e

The verdict, returned after 10 minutes' deliberation, came as a conclusion of a two-day trial in which the state introduced as evidence a statement to a deputy sheriff by the elder Dodd that he and his companion had flogged the Negro "a few licks" on July 22.

The elder Dodd testified that while questioning the Negro "he made a break at me and I hit him." He said the others "hit him a few licks, I think, but I was so excited I don't know." 10-23-46

Officers who investigated the case, said that after McAtee's death two of the Negro's stepsons admitted they had stolen the saddle from the elder Dodd.

MISSISSIPPI TRIAL

The Times New York, N.Y.

34e

People in certain parts of the deep South sometimes complain that other Americans do not understand them. The complaint may be reasonable. We do not understand the kind of "justice" that was dealt out this week at a manslaughter trial at Lexington, Miss. In this case five white men were accused of beating a Negro farm hand, whose body was subsequently found floating in a bayou. They admitted that they had "hit him a few licks." He had offended them, first by leading them to believe he had stolen a saddle, then by "making a break" at one of them while being questioned. The trial lasted two days and the white jury acquitted the five white defendants after "deliberating" for ten minutes. Sat. 10-26-46 As a last ironic touch, an investigation made after the Negro's death indicated that he had not stolen the saddle. It was his two stepsons who were guilty.

Americans in civilized communities, both North and South, do not understand this sort of thing. They cannot make it fit with the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, or the common and statutory law. It does not look like due process. Nor can an American explain such things to foreigners, who want to know why we can be so zealous for democracy and human rights abroad when some of us care so little for them at home. The only answer we can give is that civilization in this country still has dark spots. Nearly everywhere in the United States the year is 1946, but here and there it seems to be 1846 or 1746, or perhaps some centuries earlier.

Five Whites Freed

N. Y. Times Raps Verdict In Miss. Lynching Case

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 11-2-46 162

NEW YORK—(ANP)—Freeing of five white men at Lexington Miss., in the mysterious death of a Negro farm hand, Leon McAtee was condemned here Thursday by the New York Times.

A scorching editorial in the Times said:

"People in certain parts of the deep South sometimes complain that other Americans do not understand them. The complaint may be reasonable. We do not understand the kind of 'justice' that was dealt out this week at a manslaughter trial held at Lexington, Miss. In this case five white men were accused of beating a Negro farm hand, whose body was subsequently found floating in a bayou. They admitted that they had hit him a few licks. He had offended them, first by leading them to believe he had stolen a saddle, then by making a break at one of them while being questioned. The trial lasted two days and the white jury acquitted the five white defendants after deliberating for ten minutes. As a last ironic touch, an investigation made after the Negro's death indicated that he had not stolen the saddle. It was his two step-sons who were guilty.

"DARK SPOTS"

"Americans in civilized communities both North and South do not understand this sort of thing. They cannot make it fit with the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, or the common and statutory law. It does not look like due process. Nor can an American explain such things to foreigners, who want to know why we can be so zealous for democracy and human rights abroad when some of us care so little for them at home. The only answer we can give is that civilization in this country still has dark spots. Nearly everywhere in the United States, the year is 1946, but here and there it seems to be 1846 or 1746, or perhaps some centuries earlier."

Negro Granted New Hearing

34K

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., Feb. 13—Johnny B. Smith, 25-year-old Negro charged with criminal assault on a middle-aged white woman at her home in the eastern section of Tuscaloosa County a year ago, has been granted a new hearing, set for Wednesday, Feb. 20. The Negro was convicted by a Circuit Court in March, 1945, and sentenced to death in the electric chair.

The State Supreme Court ordered the conviction reversed on technical grounds that the defendant should not have been required to stand up for purposes of identification while on trial. Atty. E. L. Dodson, representing the Negro by appointment, entered a plea of not guilty. Birmingham Ala

At the trial the woman positively identified the Negro as one who came to her home when she was alone, stabbed her four times following the assault and said, "You'll never live to be a witness against me." [illegible] 13-46

Scottsboro Case Judge Spry, Active, Now 83

News, Birmingham, Ala. Friday

34K

MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 31—(AP)—One of the judges in the Scottsboro case is now 83 years old, and he says he hopes Alabama will never have another case like it.

"There probably never before has been such misrepresentation in a trial or so many bitter feelings aroused between the races," William W. Callahan recalled. 5-31-46

For 12 years he was Morgan County circuit judge. His court tried seven of the nine Negro defendants who were indicted and convicted of rape in Scottsboro.

The judge is now assistant state attorney general. He has been chief trial attorney in the State Legal Department since 1941. Spry and active, he is in his office every day.

Second Man Found Guilty Of Assault

News Birmingham, Ala.

34K

ANNISTON, Ala., Aug. 22—Lee Curtis Williams, 19-year-old Negro, charged with raping a 19-year-old Louisville, Miss., white girl here, was found guilty by a jury in Calhoun County Circuit Court, which recommended life imprisonment.

The girl who said she and her escort, Walter Ledlow, of Anniston, were overpowered by three Negroes, two of whom ravished her three times, identified Williams as one of her attackers. Williams pleaded not guilty. 8-22-46

The girl said she was assaulted twice by Leroy Scott, Negro, who was sentenced to death, and once by Williams, who returned to the scene after she had been attacked by Scott. Thursday

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Negro Given 20 Years For Attempted Assault

The News Birmingham, Ala.

Wed. 8-28-46

34K

WEDOWEE, Ala., Aug. 28—J. C. Nunn, 39, Negro, was taken to Kilby State Prison yesterday afternoon immediately after he had been convicted by a Randolph Circuit Court jury on charges of attempted criminal attack of an aged farm woman and his sentence fixed at 20 years' imprisonment.

Without leaving the courtroom, the jury returned its verdict after the state had reduced an original charge of criminal attack to attempt. The Negro, pleading innocent, was accused of threatening an 89-year-old spinster at her farm home near Heflin, Ala., about three weeks ago if she resisted him.

As a precautionary measure, 15 state highway patrolmen were sent here at the request of Sheriff George B. Payne.

8th of 9 Negroes Freed In Scottsboro Case

Louisville, Ky. 9-27-46

34K

Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 26 (AP)—Clarence Norris, one of nine Alabama Negroes involved in the famed "Scottsboro case" of 15 years ago, has been paroled from prison, the State Pardon-Parole Board announced today. Fri. 9-27-46

Charged along with the others with raping two white women, Norris received a life sentence in 1937. L. B. Stephens, secretary of the board, said the parole left only one of the original defendants, Haywood Patterson, in prison. The Courier Journal

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Negro Given Death Sentence On Murder

Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser

34K

ANNISTON, Ala., Aug. 20.—(AP)—Leroy Scott, 19-year-old Negro, was sentenced to death in the electric chair today for raping a white girl. Another Negro, Lee Curtis Williams, also 19, went on trial for the same offense shortly after Scott was sentenced.

Two Negroes Lose Appeal

The Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Executions Are Slated; Church Upheld On Building Right

Fri. 10-25-46

34K

Two condemned Negroes, one of whom once won a new trial because he was made to stand up in court and identify himself, lost another appeal to the State Supreme Court yesterday and were ordered executed on Dec. 6.

The court denied rehearings for Johnnie B. Smith, of Tuscaloosa, twice convicted of rape and sentenced to death, and John Underwood, of Autauga County, given the supreme penalty for first degree burglary. It thus let stand its decision on July 25 which affirmed the trial court verdicts.

In other rulings announced today the Supreme Court:

Denied a rehearing on a previous decision that the city of Birmingham is entitled to $95,898 in road tax funds collected by Jefferson County.

Refused to reconsider its finding that the Pentecostal Holiness Church of Montgomery cannot be restrained by the city from constructing a church building in a Montgomery residential district.

Smith, the Tuscaloosa Negro sentenced to the electric chair for raping a middle-aged woman, first was convicted in March, 1945, but the verdict was overturned by the State's highest tribunal on the grounds that the defendant's constitutional rights were violated when he was compelled to stand in the courtroom.

Penalty Fixed

34K

A new trial was ordered, and again a jury fixed the penalty at death. This conviction the Supreme Court upheld.

Although Underwood was convicted of first degree burglary, itself a capital offense, records show the state during his trial contended he attempted to rape a 205-pound white woman.

Chief Justice Lucien D. Gardner, in his opinion of July 25, said the trial "proceeded largely" on that theory, and that "what may be well described as a game fight" on the part of the victim prevented the Negro from actually raping her.

The 51-year-old widow, identified Underwood as her assailant

Negro Is Sentenced To Die For Assault

The News Birmingham, Ala.

34K

MOBILE, Ala., Nov. 21—(AP)—A 20-year-old Negro, Samuel Taylor, has been sentenced to die in the electric chair on a charge of raping a 14-year-old white school girl at nearby Prichard last April. Thurs.

A jury in Judge David H. Edington's Mobile County Circuit Court deliberated about an hour Tuesday night before returning its verdict of guilt. Judge Edington set Jan. 9, 1947, as the execution date. 11-21-46

Sparks Orders Brief Reprieve For Negroes Facing Electric Chair

The Advertiser

34K

The governor's office announced yesterday that a week's reprieve had been granted two Negroes scheduled to die in the Kilby Prison electric chair Dec. 6.

The reprieve, ordered by Gov. Chauncey Sparks, is from Dec. 6 to Dec. 13 and was granted because Gov. Sparks is scheduled to be in attendance at the Southern Governor's conference in Miami, Fla., Dec. 5-7, George Bliss Jones, the governor's secretary said. Montgomery, Ala.

The condemned Negroes are Johnnie B. Smith of Tuscaloosa and John Underwood of Autauga County. Smith has been twice convicted and sentenced to die on a charge of raping a middle-aged white woman in Tuscaloosa County. Sun. 11-24-46

The first conviction in March 1945, was reversed and a new trial ordered by the State Supreme Court on grounds his constitutional rights were abridged when he was required to stand up in the courtroom.

On a second trial Feb. 21 he was again convicted and given the death verdict which was sustained by the Supreme Court.

Underwood received the death sentence on conviction of first degree burglary, a capital offense in Alabama, but during his trial the State presented testimony to show the alleged burglary was committed during an attempt to rape a 205-pound white woman.

Southern Justice

PM New York, N.Y.

34K

At Montgomery, Ala., Johnny Smith, 25, sold his shoes to another prisoner, then walked barefoot to the electric chair in Kilby Prison for the rape of a middle-aged white woman in Tuscaloosa. In a last-minute plea for clemency, former State Rep. E. L. Dodson told Gov. Chauncey Sparks: Sun. 12-15-46

"If Johnny had been a white man there is no doubt in my mind that he would have been given more consideration and probably acquitted. When a Negro is charged with raping a white woman, all the woman has to do is testify that she was raped by a Negro and you're helpless—the Negro is convicted."

Negro Pays Supreme Penalty In Rape Case

The News

Birmingham, Ala.

34K

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 13—(AP)—A 25-year-old Negro was electrocuted early today for the rape of a middle-aged white woman.

Johnnie B. Smith, of Tuscaloosa County, denied his guilt to the last and died calmly in Kilby Prison's electric chair, several hours after an appeal for clemency was rejected by Gov. Sparks.

Smith, twice convicted of rape, walked to the death chamber and climbed into the chair unaided. The straps were tightened around him at 12:04 a.m. He was pronounced dead 10 minutes later.

Smith made a last-minute protest that "I don't think they done me right." Fri. 12-13-46

Gov. Sparks declined clemency despite an impassioned appeal by Defense Atty. E. L. Dodson, of Tuscaloosa. The attorney asserted that "when a Negro is charged with raping a white woman, all the white woman has to do is testify, and you're helpless."

34K

The governor commuted the death sentence of John Underwood, of Prattville, to life imprisonment after yesterday's hearings. Underwood, a Negro, was convicted of burglary. The state also charged the Negro with attempting to rape a white woman during the night time burglary.

Negro Found Guilty

The News Thurs. 12-12-46

34K

James Jackson, 48, Negro, of 2230 Avenue B, was found guilty of carnal knowledge in a case involving a 15-year-old white girl, by a jury in Circuit Judge Robert J. Wheeler's court yesterday. He was given a four-year prison sentence; he filed notice of appeal and his appeal bond was fixed at $2,500. Jackson was charged with aiding and abetting Winston Allen, 36, Negro, of 1624 20th Avenue, North, who was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment several weeks ago after pleading guilty to a charge of carnal knowledge. Assistant Circuit Soleitor Willard McCall handled the cases. Two other companion cases, set for this week were continued by the state yesterday. Birmingham, Ala.

SCOTTSBORO INCIDENT
Prisoner Seeks Help.

34R

I, Haywood Patterson, a victim of the Scootsboro incident, do here-by appeal to

by appeal to the public for aid. As you know, I have been denied the blessings of freedom without a proper education to face the problems of life; also without the love of a mother or father who has passed on since I have been in prison. Somehow I have become selfconscious.

34R

I have a feeling that no one is interested in me and all confidence in humanity has been shaken and in many instances killed. Of course I dont think my friends can have forgotten me. Once I realized that the public wanted to be my friend — welfare workers, church organizations, clubs, industries—all wanted to be my friend. They all wanted to help me and they have, of course, assisted me so generously in the past and now under the present circumstances I only wish that my request be not denied as I am in destitute circumstances to face life. I am not afraid to face life as it is but I need the support of the public to help me live in a new world — the world that was taken from me when I was too young to know what life means. I am expecting a parole. I don't know just when. Sat. 8-3-46

All I will have to face life with is what the State of Alabama gives a prisoner when he is released. I am asking for help that I might have the opportunity of living a good life as the board may see fit. My reason for appealing to the public is because I still love life so much. I love it because it has as yet afforded me so little delight and I love it all the more because I have so much happiness, so much rapture and enjoyment yet to hope for from it. Now I am the only one left in the Scottsboro case who is not free as the parole board recently released Ozie Powell. With that I realize some of my mistakes. There was no parole board here when I came. I had lost hope and confidence in justice, drunk with fear, sober with lost hope of ever being free, hate having taken me into the realms of unsound thinking and acting. But in spite of my shortcomings I must say the officials in charge have given me every opportunity to make good and now I see the good in everyone and they see the change in me. Now any church organizations, clubs or industry wishing to make a donation to this cause, write Haywood Patterson, Rt. 3, Box 115, Montgomery, Ala.

Another Named As Rapist, Youth To Die For Crime

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 11-30-46

34K

MOBILE, Ala.—Despite earlier identification by the rape victim of another man as her attacker, a 20-year-old Negro youth was sentenced in Circuit Court here last week to die for the crime.

State-appointed defense counsel, Henri Aldridge, who was denied his motion for mistrial, filed notice of appeal to the state supreme court after Judge D. H. Edington set Jan. 9 for the electrocution of Samuel Taylor, the accused.

Appeal To Governor Fails To Block Youth's Execution

Defender Chicago, Ill. Ala. 34f

Sept. 12-21-46

By JOHN LeFLORE

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Guilt-ridden Southern justice triumphantly electrocuted a 25-year-old youth here Friday and marched another off to life imprisonment after the stirring appeal of white attorneys failed to move the governor to intervene on behalf of one of the victims of Dixie hate. A last-minute session with the governor Thursday saved John Underwood, 26, of Prattville, from death, but Johnnie Smith, 25, of Tuscaloosa County, died in the electric chair at 12:14 a.m., Friday, quietly maintaining to the last that he was not guilty of the crime of rape.

Smith was represented both at his trials and before the Governor by E. L. Dodson, formerly a state representative, who bluntly told the state's chief executive that he doubted that any rape had ever been committed.

"When a Negro is charged with raping a white woman, all the white woman has to do is testify and you're helpless," the governor was told by Dodson who disclosed that his political friends were certain he had lost his recent battle for re-election because he defended the young Negro.

In his appeal for Underwood, E. D. Redden, Elmore County attorney, reminded the governor that public sentiment had been strong against the suspect, charged with attempted rape during the course of a burglary.

Attempting to show the governor that the alleged rape victim could not be sure of her identification of the convicted man, Redden did not mince words when he said:

34f Ala.

"Regardless of what Negro had been pointed out by the victim as her attacker, he would have been in the same spot as Underwood is today."

Defender

The doomed Smith who, his attorney stated emphatically, would have been acquitted "had he been a white man," was convicted of the alleged rape a second time when, in the first instance the state supreme court reversed the lower court decision on the grounds that the prisoner was made to stand up in court and identify himself. In the second trial, the courtroom was jammed with state highway patrolmen "armed to the teeth," a strong pressure group for conviction which Dodson cited to the governor in his appeal for Smith. He also pointed out that the youth's civil rights had been grossly abridged when the Circuit Solicitor queried him in jail and "used the evidence against him" despite the fact that no one was present to represent the suspect legally at the time.

Sept. 21-46

Chicago, Ill.

Calif. Case Ends in Compromise

6-15-46-Sat

Afro American

EL CENTRO, Calif.—The trial of three men here last week for alleged kidnapping and criminal assault of a white woman, concluded with a "compromise verdict," according to observers.

Superior Court Judge Vaughn N. Thompson found all three innocent of the kidnapping charge, but found one guolty, and two not guilty of the criminal assault charge.

Afro 6-15-46

Threats Heard

Prentice Alderson, 32, was sentenced to State Prison for a term to be fixed by the Adult Authority there. Alderson, Bryant Thompson, 27, and Milton Foster, 27, were represented by Crispus Wright, attorney. They admitted relations with the woman for a price.

Baltimore

Mr. Wright said he will appeal Alderson's sentence to the District Court of Appeals at San Diego. He was refused a change of venue because of reported threats of lynching against the trio. He waived jury trial.

M.D.

Army private gets life for rape of Chinese

Tribune

Los Angeles, Calif. Sat. 9-7-4

Army private Roy Munson, convicted several weeks ago of raping elderly Chinese Mrs. Lung Young of 212 Ferguson alley, after he had shoved aside her 90-year-old husband, was sentenced to from one year to life imprisonment in San Quentin by superior judge Walter S. Gates last week.

34f

The judge refused to allow Munson to return to his home in Louisiana on probation. The rape occurred when Munson purchased a ticket at the Union depot last May 19. He said he wandered around near the station, and then broke into Mrs. Young's home. He was traced by a knife and his train ticket, dropped during the attack.

GI acquitted in rape case

The Tribune

Los Angeles, Calif.

Archie Mimms, 27-year-old Sawtelle hospital patient, was acquitted of rape by Superior court judge Walter S. Gates in a brief trial Monday afternoon.

34f

Mildred Jessie, 21, of 921½ Beech st., told the court Mimms had raped her June 28 near Ross Snyder playground. She said he hit her over the head with a wine bottle, then ravished her. Sat 8-31-4

However, testimony disclosed the girl had been free to leave the scene of the alleged attack when a bystander chased Mimms around the block, but she had not left. Mimms denied forcible rape.

Judge Gates said he saw no rape involved, and said the only charge he could uphold would be simple assault, a misdemeanor.

Negro defends six Mexicans charged with raping white

Los Angeles Tribune

Los Angeles Calif.

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N

Declaring there was sufficient doubt in his mind to preclude a guilty verdict, superior court Judge Charles Fricke dismissed rape and kidnapping charges against six young Mexican-American boys being tried for attacking a local white woman.

34f

After defense attorney Walter L. Gordon, Jr., unexpectedly rested his case and addressed the court, the jurist quickly threw the case out, freeing the youths.

In the final period of questioning witnesses Thursday morning, Gordon presented evidence to contradict Mrs. Thelma V. Marvin's story that she had resisted the boys when they confessed to having had intercourse with her.

Sat. 7-20-46

As spectators at the Joseph Burke murder trial remained in department 43 of the superior court Wednesday waiting for the jury to return a verdict, a tri-racial legal drama was unfolded before their eyes as six Mexican boys, charged with raping a white woman, went on trial.

Represented by Negro lawyer Walter L. Gordon, Jr., the youths, ranging in age from 19 to 25, insisted they had intercourse with Mrs. Thelma Marvin, 29, of Manhattan Beach, only after she had asked them to do so.

Mrs. Marvin, who took the stand, told the court that two months ago the six boys forced her into a car, drove her into the hills, and had 8 acts of intercourse with her, against her will. The district attorney's office has charged each of the boys with kidnapping and rape, both charges carrying a possible death sentence.

Mrs. Marvin, who recently came to California from Ohio, said she started talking to one of the boys on a street corner after coming out of a bar with her husband and a friend. Sat 7-20-46

"While we were standing there talking, a car drove up and five boys jumped out . They started fighting with my husband and Mr. Hatch. Two boys grabbed my arm and started pushing me into the car. I looked back and saw my husband lying on the ground.

"I don't know where they took me, but about 10 minutes later we stopped . . . it was dark . . . the car seemed to be sitting on a hill. I asked them what they were going to do and they said they were going to ———. I didn't get hysterical or anything like that.

"All of them had sex relations with me, and two came back again. Those were the six men."

She pointed to the defendants, Alex Aguirre, 19; Jesus F. Arenas, 24; Salvador Ontiveros, 21; Ysais Girjaiba, 23; Joe Munoz, 25; and Henry A. Valdez, 23. Sat. 7-20-46

Under cross-examination, the woman denied she had led a lewd life or had consented to the acts. The cross-examination was cut short and the trial postponed when the Burke jury returned, asking that portions of the murder trial be read to them so that they could reach a decision.

34f 1946

Court Martial

7312

GI's Sentence Cut to Ten Years For Rape

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City

34f

NEW YORK.—The NAACP legal department has been informed that the sentence of Samuel Hill has been reduced from life imprisonment to ten years and restoration to duty has been recommended. Sat. 7-13-46

Samuel Hill was tried by General Court-Martial sitting at APO 565 on the 7th and 8th days of March, 1945, for allegedly having committed the crime of rape upon a native woman. At the request of his family, the NAACP petitioned the Secretary of War for clemency in his behalf. The petition pointed out that the conviction and sentence were unwarranted and unlawful.

Hill has been transferred from a federal penitentiary to a disciplinary barracks at Ft. Massoula, Montana, where he will be able to obtain reassignment within a few months if he makes an exemplary record. Sat. 7-13-46

7313

Young Killer Entrains For Second Scheduled Date With Death Chair

Montgomery, Ala.

Advertiser

D.C.

34R

KNOXVILLE, TENN., April 14—(AP)— Nattily dressed in a brown ensemble, rape-killer Earl McFarland entrained today for Washington and a scheduled rendezvous with the electric chair.

"This is one trip I'm not keen about making," grinned the 25-year-old ex-Marine as he stepped aboard the Pullman. He was handcuffed and manacled and guarded by three U. S. Deputy Marshals.

McFarland, who was recaptured here last Thursday by two FBI agents after escaping the death row of the District of Columbia jail April 3, wore a brown tweed jacket, brown slacks and tan shirt given him by Deputy Sheriff Cas Chumlea, the first officer to arrest him. Mon. 4-15-46.

"Thanks a lot for all you've done for me—you've really been swell," he told Chumlea.

The sandy-haired Tennessean was convicted of the rape-slaying of an 18-year-old government girl in Washington in 1944 and sentenced to die.

Meanwhile, his attorney, W. N. Albert, said he had been promised a White House conference in behalf of his client in a telephone conversation with a Presidential secretary. He said he would seek executive clemency for McFarland on grounds the condemned youth is "mentally incompetent."

Earl McFarland Dies In Chair For Slaying Of Government Girl

Birmingham News

Birmingham, Ala.

Last Hour Stay Appeal Denied; Former Escapee Faced Execution Calmly

BY DON SAUNDERS

WASHINGTON, July 19 — (AP) — Earl McFarland, Marine veteran died in the electric chair today for the rape slaying of a young government girl. Friday 7-19-46

The 25-year-old McFarland, who saw service in the Guadalcanal campaign, went to the chair in the District of Columbia jail at 9:05 a.m. (CST) and was pronounced dead seven minutes later.

34R

D.C.

He walked calmly to the chair, a cigaret dangling from his lips, to pay the penalty for the murder of 18-year-old Dorothy Berrum, of Chippewa Falls, Wis., in October, 1944. 7-19-46

Just before he started on the last 100 paces to the execution chamber the boyish appearing veteran, a native of Knoxville, Tenn., issued a statement reiterating his contention of innocence. News

Several hours earlier he ate a breakfast of ham and eggs, toast and coffee. Last night he had chicken for dinner. Birmingham, Ala.

MCFARLAND HELPED jail guards to adjust the straps on the chair just before the powerful current flashed through his body.

An 11th hour attempt to delay the execution failed last night when Chief Justice Vinson rejected a petition for a stay pending a lunacy hearing.

Col. Curtis Reid, jail superintendent, said McFarland's last request was for permission to walk alone from his cell to the death chamber. Two prison chaplains who would have accompanied him, went instead to an anteroom to witness the electrocution.

* * *

IN THE STATEMENT issued through Reid just before leaving his cell, McFarland said:

"I want to express my thanks and deep appreciation to everyone who has helped me. I still say I am not guilty of these crimes."

He was convicted of garroting Miss Berrum with her own snood.

* * *

HE WAS ALSO indicted in the death of Mrs. Margaret Fitzwater, but was never tried. Mrs. Fitzwater's body was found in a lagoon near the Pentagon a few days before Miss Berrum's death.

The Rev. Daniel Potter, Protestant chaplain who attended McFarland, said McFarland was baptized in the Protestant faith last night and took communion this morning. 7-19-46

"He is prepared to meet his maker. His spirit is at ease," the clergyman said.

During the execution, McFarland's brother, Samuel B. Dills, of Forks, Wash., sat in the shade of a tree outside the jail. Dills last saw his brother about 9 o'clock this morning. 7-19-46

McFarland, a one-time juvenile delinquent, was convicted on testimony that he picked up Miss Berrum on the night of Oct, 5, 1944, took her to an unlighted section of one of the city's parks and strangled her.

Her body was found the next morning.

* * *

UNSUCCESSFUL APPEALS for his life were taken through the courts. The Supreme Court refused to review the case. President Truman rejected a clemency plea about two weeks ago.

McFarland apparently was resigned to his fate after his 12 days of freedom gained in a desperate escape with Joseph D. Medley, another convicted murderer, last April 3.

Medley was at large only half a day, but McFarland was not recaptured until April 15 in Knoxville.

The escape of the pair from the district jail was one of a series which led to a congressional investigation.

Asks $160,000 for Assault on Steamer

The Tribune Washington, D.C.

Sat 8-10-46

34R

D.C.

Two suits asking total damages of $160,000 growing out of a criminal assault on August 5, 1945, on a 53-year-old Norfolk woman passenger on the Norfolk-Washington steamer, Meteor, were filed in the Federal District Court last week.

Named as defendants are the steamship agency of Dichmann, Wright, and Pugh and George C. Hudgins, master of the ship.

SENTENCED TO HANG

Jack Lester Barnes, 24-year-old steward on the vessell, was convicted of the crime last October in the Princes Georges County Circuit Court and sentenced to hang. An appeal is pending before the Supreme Court.

Joint suits were filed by Mrs. Frederick M. Weade, the passenger, and her husband. Mrs. Weade asks for $100,000 damages, while her husband asks $50,000, and Mrs. Robert L. Stinemeyer, 1300 block of Euclid St., N.W., who shared the stateroom with Mrs. Weade is suing for $10,000 damages.

34f 1946

Florida

7314

Youth Sentenced To Life For Rape

The Informer

Houston, Texas

MIAMI— (ANP) Cyrill Roberts, an 18-year-old youth, was convicted in Judge Ross Williams' criminal court here last Tuesday on charges of raping a 37-year-old white waitress. Roberts' accomplaice, 24-year-old Allen Bryant, is still being sought for the crime.

34f

Bryant, the woman said, assaulted her while holding a gun on the cafe manager. She claimed the two robbed her of a platinum wedding ring and took several hundred dollars from the restaurant.

Fla.

Sat. 3-30-46

A circuit court jury recommended mercy for Roberts after a lengthy deliberation. There was no courtroom disturbance during the tense two-day trial.

Negro Sentenced To Electric Chair For Attack on Girl

Times-Union

Jacksonville, Florida Jul. 7-18-46

Tom Melton, negro, found guilty of rape by a Duval County Circuit Court on July 17, yesterday was sentenced to death in the electric chair at Raiford State Prison by Judge Bayard [illegible] Shields.

Florida

34f

Melton's sentence was handed down one month to the day the time he criminally assaulted a 16-year-old white girl. The crime was committed in the Norwood section of the city on the night of June 27.

A motion for a new trial, based upon allegations that the jury had arrived at a decision "contrary to the evidence," was denied yesterday by Judge Shields.

Fla.

13-YEAR-OLD BOY GETS 15 YEARS ON RAPE CHARGE

The Florida Tattler

Jacksonville, Fla.

Sat. 11-9-46

34f

Daniel Haywood, 13 years old, of Forest Street, was sentenced to 15 years in the State prison by Judge Edwin L. Jones in Criminal Court of Record Friday of last week, following his conviction of criminal assault on a five-year-old white child.

Fla.

According to several witnesses, Daniel Haywood was not guilty as charged.

A white mob tried to lynch the boy, but a white preacher spoke up and kept the angry white mob from acting.

It was said that Haywood's parents were not financially able to fight the case and that no Negro organization offered any assistance whatsoever.

Some people believe that Haywood should have a re-trial and be defended by a first class lawyer.

N.Y. Groups Uncover New Evidence in Crome Case

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 11-16-46

Attack Count Nets Fla. Fugitive 15-30 Year Term; Charts on Hand to Prove His Innocence

NEW YORK—Sensational developments since the sentencing of James Johnson, Florida chain gang fugitive, to from 15 to 30 years in prison for robbery, larceny and attempted criminal attack of Gloria Paterno, 18, in Jamaica, Queens, may lead to an appeal and a new trial.

34f

The Jamaica NAACP and several other civic organizations now have started new investigations to prove Johnson innocent.

New evidence shows that it was impossible for him to scale a wall in the dead-end alley into which the District Attorney said he ran after attacking the white girl.

Fla.

Jurors Not Properly Queried

Also to be attacked is the method in which the trial was conducted and jurors picked. No members of the jury were questioned as whether they were affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan.

In the event a new trial is granted, defense attorneys will introduce for the first time evidence of Johnson's inhuman beatings by Queens police in an effort to force him to confess.

After he was picked up and arrested at approximately 2:30 a.m. after the alleged attack, Johnson reportedly was taken to police headquarters where he was beaten with a rubber hose, loaded bags, kicked in the groin and knocked unconscious three times.

During this procedure, police alledgedly kept asking him, "Why did you do it?" According to the law, Johnson was supposed to be arraigned the following day, Sunday, for a hearing. Instead, it is asserted that police continued to beat him.

The alleged brutalities were climaxed by Johnson being hung up by his hands on a steam pipe for two hours and beaten mercilessly all over his body.

For reasons best known to his attorneys, none of these facts were brought out during his trial. Among the persons pressing the new investigation are Mrs. Lois Allen, Dr. Judge Thompson and Mrs. Ruth Anderson.

Intimidation Hinted

Evidence to be introduced will include testimony that the dead-end alley in which the crime allegedly took place was inspected and evidence of tampering found. Intimidation of witnesses in Johnson's behalf also allegedly took place.

According to Solomon Harper, of the National Equal Rights League, the moment Johnson was arrested, a full account of the charges against him were telegraphed to Florida and he was "lynched" there even before his trial began.

When the girl's mother was asked by the press whether her daughter actually had been criminally attacked, she was vague.

Harper points out that Johnson was originally booked for criminal attack but was later changed to "attempted." Also, Miss Paterno supposedly was knocked unconscious . . . yet, somehow she managed to retain hold of her handbag throughout the "ordeal" until police arrived.

Although Johnson was said to have pulled her underclothing off, she was found in a sitting position by a rookie policeman.

Harper says this is the first time in the history of New York State, that an escaped convict from the South has been charged with criminal attack here.

Both the Civil Rights Congress and the Civil Liberties Union have offered counsel to Johnson for a new trial.

However, Harper fears that if Johnson is set free, he will be lynched, once he is extradited to Florida, and at the present time, there is no way of keeping him from being returned there once he is freed.

In his opinion, Johnson is as good as dead once they take him South. Guilty or not, the fact that he has been mixed up in such a case is enough to lynch him.

Called Prize Frame-Up

The Equal Rights League believes this case was the biggest frame-up of an innocent man in New York State to date. It has diagrams that prove that Johnson couldn't have possibly been the man Gloria Paterno said attacked her.

Jamaica police needed a scapegoat on whom to pin a crime, the League believes, and found a good suspect in Johnson who had run away from Florida's penal system.

His Equal Rights League friends believe they can prove him innocent in a new trial, but their principal fear is for what will happen to him in Florida.

Electrocuted

Atlanta Daily World

Man Denies

Atlanta Ga.

Guilt To End

Thur. 4-4-46

Before being electrocuted at Tattnall State Penitentiary, at Reidsville, Georgia, Friday, Leon Lewis of 300 Old Wheat Street, N. E. wrote his last statement, and requested that the warden send it to his relatives and friends.

34f

The text of the statement follows: "All I can say is that I feel God has saved me. I am going down by a frame-up. I hope that this won't happen to anybody else I'm on my way to Glory. I'm not guilty. May God have mercy on me, my loved ones and friends. I believe I'll meet them some glad day."

Ga.

Lewis was sentenced to die in the electric chair in connection with a criminal assault of a white woman, on the night of July 7, 1945, on Angier Avenue, back of Sears Roebuck. Thur. 4-4-46

Following his conviction in the Fulton County Superior Court, the case was carried to the State Supreme Court, which upheld the verdict of the lower court. On Monday, March 27 the State Board reviewed the case, but failed to commute the sentence to life imprisonment. 34f 4-4-46

Lewis was a native of Atlanta and devoted some of his time to driving a taxi-cab. He was funeralized Sunday at Temple, Ga.

Relatives of the deceased are indeed grateful to the Atlanta taxi drivers and the many friends for their kindness and cooperation.

Second Man

Atlanta Ga.

Convicted in

Constitution

Assault Case

Sat. 3-30-46

LAWRENCEVILLE, March 25.—Luke Carter, second man found guilty by a Gwinnett county jury on a charge of criminal assault on a woman, was today sentenced by Judge Clifford Pratt in superior court to serve from one to three years in the penitentiary, this being the term recommended by the jury late last night.

34f

Tom H. Oakes, also of Lawrenceville, was also convicted earlier in the week on the same charge. Both were indicted jointly but were tried separately. Both men filed new trial pleas and Judge Pratt set May 18 as the date to hear their plea.

Ga.

Oakes and Carter, well known livestock dealers here, were charged with criminal attack upon a returned soldier's wife, also a citizen of Gwinnett county, it being alleged the two men picked up the pair in Atlanta, taking them to a hotel there and then driving off with the wife in their auto after the husband had alighted from the car.

The public was excluded from the trials. Both men are in jail here. Sat. 3-30-46

The superior court, presided over by Judge Pratt, of Winder, with Solicitor Hope D. Stark, Lawrenceville, representing the state, adjourned today.

Death Sentence For Man Upheld

Daily World Sun.

Atlanta, Ga. 34f Ga.

The death sentence for Lee James Allen, who was convicted of attacking a white woman was affirmed Friday by the Georgia Supreme Court. Three of the seven judges dissented in the case on the grounds that testimony on two similar crimes by Allen should not have been admitted as evidence.

Doomed Macon Man

Daily World

Denied Respite

After Four Years

Daily World

The Georgia Supreme Court Wednesday refused to issue a writ of habeas corpus to save Sylvester Andrews, of Macon, from the electric chair. Thursday

34f

Thus, the four year old fight for Andrews, convicted of criminal assault upon a Negro woman, now dead, neared an end, unless the Supreme Court of the United States intervenes. Andrews was convicted and sentenced to death by a Bibb Superior Court jury on July 8, 1942. Atlanta, Ga.

Latest effort to free Andrews was made by his wife, Mrs. Louise Andrews, who filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in the City Court of Reidsville, Georgia, alleging that Warden A. C. Aderhold, of Tattnall State Prison, was holding Andrews illegally in the death row.

Ga.

Man and Wife Given

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Year in Attack Case

Sat 10-19-46

JEFFERSON, Oct. 18—A jury in Twiggs Superior Court tonight convicted Mrs. Louis O'Neal of assault and battery and sentenced her to serve a year in the penitentiary. Her husband, tried at the same time, was found guilty of being an accessory and received a similar sentence.

JEFFERSONVILLE, Oct. 18—After listening to concluding statements of an attractive Macon vocational school student who stated Mr. and Mrs. Louis O'Neal beat her, stripped off her clothes and left her in an abandoned pit after she had refused advances by O'Neal, a Twiggs County Superior Court jury retired late Friday to arrive at a verdict in the case.

34f

The O'Neals are on trial in the Twiggs County Court on charges of assault with intent of criminal attack and intent to murder.

Ga.

Mrs. O'Neal, testifying earlier in the trial, had disputed the girl's charges. She said she and the girl became involved in a fight while the latter was traveling with her husband and herself Aug. 23, and her husband had to stop the fight. They were all drunk, she asserted, and the girl wanted a coat she was wearing.

Repeating an account she earlier had given officers, the girl testified that she was "picked up" by the O'Neals in Macon on Aug. 23 with the understanding that they would ride her to her home in Wilkinson County.

Instead, she told the jury, O'Neal took a side road which led to the abandoned clay pit, in Twiggs County, and there made immoral advances. She resisted, she continued, and the beating and abandonment followed.

After being left in the clay pit, she managed to make her way to a highway and a motorist gave her a ride to Macon.

Stay Of Execution

Daily World

Granted To Mangum

34f Ga.

James Mangum of Atlanta, who was slated to die in the electric chair at Tattnall Prison at Reidsville, Friday, on a charge of rape, was granted a stay by Judge Melville Price of the Superior Court of Tattnall County. Atlanta, Ga.

The stay resulted from habeas corpus proceedings instituted by firm of Hathcock, Milam and Smith and S. S Robinson, attorneys for James Mangum.

A supersedeas was granted December 19 and the hearing was set for January 3, 1947, at the courthouse in Reidsville, Ga., at 3:00 o'clock. Sat. 12-21-46

The petition held that the conviction was void on the grounds that it violated the 14th Amendment because the confession on which the conviction is based was obtained under duress. It held that Mangum was "coerced, forced, intimidated, threatened and beaten to such an extent that he had fear that his life would be taken from him if he did not confess to something he did not do."

The petition further contends that the conviction is void on the grounds that Mangum "was promised and informed that if he would sign his name, he would get a bond and get out on a charge of rape." This the petition held was promise of reward to Mangum and is beyond the power of the officers to whom he made the alleged confession. Mangum, the petition states, did not know that the officers were unable to free him on bond. His attorneys say he signed the confession in order to escape further coercion, beatings, threats and intimidations.

7316

Soldier Freed On German Rape Charge

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill.

34f

NEW YORK.—Eugene R. Lewis, of the 3496th Quartermaster Company, sentenced to death for the alleged rape of a German woman, has been cleared of the charge and his sentence vacated, the NAACP was informed this week.

The sentence was revoked through the intervention of the NAACP attorneys who wrote the commanding general of the European theater: Sat. 3-30-46

"A cursory reading of the record shows that on the night of the alleged crime, two other soldiers also participated in the same act, at the same time, and with the same woman, and that these two unnamed soldiers were also tried by a court-martial sitting at the same place on the same afternoon of the same day as that of the trial of Lewis."

These two soldiers, tried on substantially the same set of facts, were acquitted.

Army to Hang Two for Rape

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky. Sat.

Frankfurt, Sept. 20 (AP)— 9-21-46

Two U. S. Air Forces soldiers have been sentenced to be hanged and three others to life imprisonment on conviction of raping two German women, headquarters announced today.

34f

It listed those sentenced to die as Cpl. Asbury L. Wells, Walaware Shoals, S. C., and Pfc. Gonzalo Salinas, Lincoln, N. M.

Sentenced to life imprisonment at hard labor and dishonorable discharge from the Army were Pfc. Willis L. Daigle, Beaumont, Tex.; Pfc. Edward B. Hayes, Oak Forest, Ill., and Pfc. Clem R. McKenzie, Minneapolis.

CIVIC GROUP STAYS GI DEATH SENTENCE

Sat. Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—The death sentence against Army veteran McKinley Moore, convicted of alleged rape by an Army court martial in Germany, has been changed due to the intervention of NAACP lawyers, who showed that the petitioner had been denied due process of law. Sat. 10-26-46

34f 1946 Hawaii

Navy Man Gets Life In Attack On Wave

The Birmingham News

34f

Ala.

HONOLULU, March 22—(AP)—John J. Blakeney, 1[illegible]-year-old sailor of Winston-Salem, N. C., was sentenced to life imprisonment today by Federal Judge J. Frank McLaughlin for raping a 32-year-old Wave last Oct. 8. He was convicted of criminal assault March 5. The jury recommended against imposition of the death sentence.

The attack on the Wave occurred as she was returning to her quarters after attending chapel on the naval reservation.

News 3-22-46

Thomas J. Robinson, 21, of Roanoke, Va., was given a 20-year sentence and William Carmichael, Jr., 22, of Chicago, was placed on five year probation. Both sailors were implicated with Blakeney but pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of attack with intent to ravish.

34f 1946

Illinois

7318

Man Gets 1-14 Years For Assault On Girl, 9

Joliet, Ill., June 18 (AP)—James F. Lincoln, Jr., son of a Cleveland industrialist, today was sentenced to one to 14 years in Illinois Penitentiary on his plea of guilty to a charge of assault with intent to kill.

Lincoln was accused of shooting and beating 9-year-old Carol Williams March 20 and of attempting to rape Darlene Wood, 10, on March 19. Lincoln entered a plea only on the one charge.

7319

Man 31 Gets 4 Yrs And "Cat" For Raping Girl 20

Public Opinion
Kingston Jamaica
Tues 2-26-46

34f

George Campbell, 31-year-old labourer, was sentenced to four years' imprisonment with hard labour, six lashes with the cat-o-nine tails and two years' police supervision, following a "guilty" verdict on a charge of rape in the Home Circuit Court yesterday, by Mr. Justice Carberry.

Jamaica

Allegations are that on the morning of September 11 last year [illegible] Gooden, 20, came to Kingston from Brows's Town, St. Catherine. She was standing at the corner of King and Barry Streets when two men snatched a handkerchief from her hand containing £2 10. In her despair Campbell came up told her he knew the men who had snatched her money, offered to take her to them and recover it.

Tues 2-26-46

By a circuitous route he took her to a parcel of open land in Western Kingston and raped her. Gooden said Campbell held her by the throat and threatened to kill her with a razor blade if she raised an alarm.

Later in the day she pointed out Campbell to two constables on duty at the Coronation Market and he was arrested.

Drs. Joyce Tate and L. E. Arnold gave evidence touching examination of Gooden and analysis of stains found on the garments of Campbell and the girl.

Following the Judge's charge to the jury they brought in a verdict of "guilty" without retiring.

Giving evidence of character, Det. Corporal Franklyn Campbell of the CID said Campbell had eleven previous convictions, all of them for dishonesty or vagrancy and dating back to 1930.

34f 1946

Japan

7320

2 G.I.'s Given Life For Raping Jap Girl

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Tues. 7-2-46

34f

Japan

Tokyo, July 1 (U.P.)—Army Privates Adam A. Palacios, 19, and Arturo Canto, 20, both of Raymondville, Tex., were sentenced to life imprisonment and dishonorable discharge today for raping a 23-year-old Japanese girl near Haneda airport May 19 after a beer-drinking party. The sentence is subject to review.

34f 1946

Kentucky

7321

Deaf Mute Gets Rape Term.

Louisville, Ky.
Courier-Journal

34f

Jewell Large, 22, Rineyville, Ky., a deaf mute, was given a 15-year prison sentence on a rape charge yesterday in Criminal Court. He pleaded guilty to the offense at a home on South Hancock last November 28. 5-29-46

n Sentenced for Rape Asks for New Trial

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

34f

Henry Woodruff, Negro, sentenced to life imprisonment for rape, yesterday asked a new trial because, he charged, his attorney had been "hurried up" too much by Criminal Court Judge Loraine Mix. Sat. 12-7-46

Ky.

Woodruff, 23, of 716 Congress, was accused of raping a young white woman on the 500 block of Second at gun point. A second irl said she was restrained by e pistol from interfering.

wo to Hang,
Washington Post
# wo Get Life
Washington, D.C.
# n Wac Rape

Verdict Rendered In 10 Minutes; Victim Stationed At Edgewood

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 14 (AP).—Two Negroes convicted of raping an Edgewood Arsenal Wac last January 8 were sentenced to death by hanging today and two others convicted of assault with intent to rape were sentenced to life imprisonment.

A three-judge court which heard two and a half days of testimony in the case pronounced the sentences after a little more than 10 minutes of deliberation. [illegible]-46

William Denby, 23, and Roy Peters, [illegible], were sentenced to be hanged. They were convicted on the first count of actual rape.

Robert J. Gilbert, 16, and Theodore Peters, 31, were sentenced to life imprisonment. They were convicted on the second count of assault with intent to rape.

The defense indicated the death sentences would be appealed. Under a new Maryland law, cases involving capital punishment are automatically reviewable.

Judges W. Conwell Smith, Edwin T. Dickerson and Herman M. Moser heard the case, removed here from Harford County on a change of venue requested by the defense.

Four Convicted In Wac Attack
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Face Hanging; Two Draw Life Terms

NAVY VET IN GROUP

Lawyers Blame Aims at Social Equality

Sat 2-23-46

BALTIMORE

With the State demanding the supreme penalty and defense counsel declaring "this is the result of the preachings of social equality," two of four men charged with attacking an Edgewood Arsenal WAC were sentenced to the gallows on Thursday.

Spared the death sentence because of his youth, 16-year-old Robert J. Gilbert was given life imprisonment along with Theodore Peters, 31, a war veteran, who was found guilty of assaulting the woman and "with intent to attack."

Three-Day Trial

Receiving the hanging sentence were Peters' brother Roy, and William Denby, both 23. The trial in the Baltimore Criminal Court lasted three days. No appeals will be taken in the case.

The four defendants from Magnolia, Md., admitted in signed confessions that they had relations with the woman in Roy's car last Jan. 8 after Denby chased her soldier-escort away with a butcher knife.

Winfield Cain, white counsel appointed by the court of Harford County to represent Denby and Gilbert, declared in his closing argument:

Lawyers Oppose Equality

"I'm opposed to social equality, and people going around the country preaching it have planted dangerous seeds in the minds of such men as these."

He argued that the State should take steps to discontinue the educating of people on questions of equality through the radio and other mediums of public opinion.

County's "Dirty Linen"

At the same time, he apologized to the presiding judges for their having to "wash Harford County's dirty linen," adding that the case was brought to Baltimore because counsel felt public sentiment would have been against the defendants in their home county.

The trial opened on Tuesday morning before Chief Judge W. Conwell Smith, Judge Herman M. Moser and Judge Edwin T. Dickerson with the testimony of the WAC a 28-year-old divorcee from Florida.

WAC Testifies

She stated that she and the soldier were returning to camp on Edgewood Rd. after spending the evening at a skating rink when the car, driven by Roy Peters approached, and Denby asked if they "wanted a lift."

When the couple refused, Denby and Roy chased the soldier away with a butcher knife, and Denby forced her into the car when he returned, she said.

Men Abandon Car

Six attacks, three of them by Denby, were forced upon her by the men after they parked the car on a lonely road, the WAC testified. Sat 2-23-46

Theodore was arrested that night by State police who had been alerted by the woman's fleeing escort, after the four men abandoned the car, leaving the WAC on the back seat, it was revealed.

Confessions Read

In their confessions, the men said Denby stated "let's get that woman" as they first drove past the couple on the road.

They stated that Gilbert threw a coat over the license tags before they returned to the couple.

Denby admitted having relations with the woman three times, and chasing the soldier with the butcher knife which he said belonged to his mother.

Woman Did Not Struggle

All of them contended that the woman did not struggle or offer any resistance.

Theodore, the only one to take the witness stand during the defense's case, said he first told the troopers the woman was nonchantly smoking a cigarette while submitting to their attentions, and later changed his statement saying that she had no cigarettes.

Changes Statement

He also admitted changing his former contention that he did not touch the woman, although he declared that his sexual efforts with her were unsuccessful.

According to Denby, Sgt. John Cassiday, a State trooper, said he had a lie detector which would make Denby tell the truth, and called him a "d—n liar" when he first denied the assault.

The trooper denied that threats or promises had been made to any of the defendants before the statements were taken.

Civilization Blamed

In an eloquent closing argument, Thomas F. Cadwalder, counsel for the Peters brothers blamed modern civilization for the plight of the four defendants.

He declared that white women flaunt their nearly-nude bodies through the newspapers and theatres, and expect people with primitive minds, just 150 years removed from slavery to react like the most modern of today's humans.

Schooling Limited

He maintained that it was not the fault of "these defendents who had little schooling or knowledge of modern culture that they reacted with their senses, and not their limited intelligence," to such practices.

Gilbert went to the fifth grade in school; Theodore and Roy to the seventh; while Denby completed the second year of high school.

Navy Veteran

Theodore was released in September from the Navy after three years of service. The mother of the Peters brothers, Mrs. Hannah Peters, attended only the first day of trial.

A distant cousin of the family told the AFRO after the sentences were passed that "Denby has always been a bad boy."

None of the convicted men had any previous police records. The two men sentenced to be hanged are already in the death house and the other two in prison at the Maryland Penitentiary.

Man Gets 3 Years On Morals Charge
Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

Frederick, Md., April 11 (Spl.). Pleading guilty to a charge of assault with intent to carnally know a 9-year-old Frederick girl, Leon W. Printz, former serviceman of Myersville, was sentenced to three years in the State Reformatory by Associate Judge Patrick M. Schnauffer yesterday. Printz's plea of insanity was refuted by a report of an examination by the State board of mental hygene. [illegible]-46

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2 Md. Youths Sentenced to Hang for Rape
Washington Post
Washington D.C.
Sat. 5-1[illegible]-46

Two Huntsville, Md., youths, 15 and 16, were sentenced yesterday to hang for the rape of a 19-year-old Seat Pleasant, Md., girl.

The youths, James Clarence Raymond Washington and Willie Gray Taylor, both Negroes, were sentenced in Prince Georges County Circuit Court by Judges Charles C. Marbury and John [illegible] Gray, jr.

The two [illegible] after the girl took the stand last Monday and told how each [illegible] her twice on March 17 in a 2½-hour ordeal while her escort was held at the point of a gun.

Two others, Charles Ross, 20, and his brother, Walter, 21, will go on trial for the same offense in Annapolis court Tuesday, their counsel having obtained a change of venue.

In passing sentence, Judge Marbury commented that the law provides no variation in sentence in the case of minors. He said the public must be considered in addition to the youths. He blamed the youths' predicament on lack of parental supervision. Sat 5-[illegible]-46

The date for hanging will be set by the Governor. Counsel for both said they will seek appeals. Motions for new trials were denied by Judges Marbury and Gray.

Washington has also been charged with the murder of 61-year-old Annie Jones of Huntsville. The Huntsville woman was killed February 7.

Appeals Argued in Assault Case
The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Ransom and Associate List 9 Trial Errors

Sat. 11-9-46

ANNAPOLIS, Md.—The Court of Appeals last Friday heard pleas to set aside the conviction and death sentences of two youths, Willie Gray Taylor and James Clarence R. Washington, for criminally assaulting a white girl from Seat Pleasant last March 17.

They were convicted in Prince Georges County Circuit Court last May 13 and 14, and sentenced to be hanged. Two others were implicated—Charles William Ross, also sentenced to death, and Walter Ross, his brother, who was acquitted.

9 Errors Cited

Leon A. Ransom, Washington, D.C., and Austin L. Fickling, attorneys, argued Taylor's appeal, listing nine alleged errors of the trial court, and emphasizing that Taylor should have had a separate trial after Washington pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity.

They contended also that the lower court had improperly admitted oral and written confessions of Taylor.

Robert M. McCullogh, pleading for Washington, said the court should not have admitted in evidence a written confession after it was conceded that Washington could neither read nor write. The State replied that there were no reversible errors in the action of the lower court.

Wac Attackers Hanged Quickly
The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

By MAX JOHNSON

BALTIMORE

Two of the quickest hangings here in recent years occurred early Friday morning (today) at the penitentiary, with the double execution of William [illegible] Demby, 23, and Roy N. Peters, [illegible], both of Magnolia, Md.

Both men were pronounced dead less than 12 minutes after each had been dropped through the death trap. Average hanging time recorded here is about 14 minutes. Sat. 10-12-46

They were executed for criminally attacking a white Wac near Edgewood Arsenal last January.

Forget Hood

Attendants handling Demby, who went first in a straight clean drop, almost forgot to pull the hood over his head and one had to interrupt the usual quietness of such an occasion to yell out a reminder.

This haste on the part of attendants was further evidenced in the handling of Peters. He went through the trap door as if he had either just collapsed or been pushed and the hood, not fastened securely over his face, was half jerked off.

Demby was married and had four children. Peters was single. Both were natives of Maryland. Their deaths make a total of five persons hanged at the penitentiary this year.

Five Remain

Five men remain in the prison's deathhouse. They are:

Charles W. Ross, convicted in Anne Arundel County for criminal assault; Walter Jones Jr., murder conviction in Wicomico County; Jack L. Barnes, James C. R. Washington, and Willie H. Taylor, all for criminal assault convictions in Prince Georges County.

Negro To Hang For Act Committed On Ship
Birmingham, Ala.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Nov. 27—(AP)—Jack Lester Barnes, 26-year-old Negro convicted of raping a white woman aboard a Washington-Norfolk steamer, will be hanged Dec. 13 under a death warrant signed by Gov. Herbert R. O'Conor. Wed

Barnes lost his final appeal Oct. 14, when the U. S. Supreme Court refused to issue a writ of certiorari in his case. His attorneys contended that the Prince George's County (Md.) Court in which he was convicted had no jurisdiction.

A similar plea was dismissed by the Maryland Court of Appeals.

The Maryland Court held that the Maryland-Virginia compact of 1785, which settled jurisdictional problems arising out of oyster-poaching on the Potomac River, did not prohibit Maryland from trying persons for crimes committed in its waters. 11-27-46

7323

Man Gets 9 to 12 Year Prison Term for Attack

Afro American

BOSTON.—Convicted by a Suffolk Superior Court jury of criminally assaulting a 23-year-old woman from Dorchester, Frank Cooper, 25, of [illegible] St., was sentenced to from nine to 12 years in the State Prison by Judge Edward A. Voke.

Assistant District Attorney John F. McAuliffe contended that Cooper assaulted the defendant, a Federal Government clerk, several times Mar. 30.

Baltimore Md.

7324

Jury Convicts Detroit Rapist

Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Detroit, April 25 (U.P.)—A recorders court jury of eight women and four men deliberated only 11 minutes today in finding Frank Lobaido, 29, Detroit grocer, guilty of the rape and knifing of Rosalie Giganti, 7.

The jury found Lobaido guilty of rape and attempted murder, both of which charges carry maximum penalties of life imprisonment. He will be sentenced Wednesday. Fri. 4-26-46

Lobaido stood convicted as the man who raped Rosalie in the back room of his grocery store January 27, slit her throat twice with a butcher knife and left her for dead in an alley garbage can.

The girl has recovered almost completely.

34f

Raper of Child Gets 40 Years

Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Detroit, May 1 (U.P.) — Frank Lobaido, 28, was sentenced to a minimum term of 40 years in prison today for the brutal rape and attempted slaying of 7-year-old Rosalie Giganti last January 27. Thurs. 5-2-46

Recorder's Judge Gerald W. Groat pronounced concurrent sentences on two counts of rape and attempted murder of a minimum of 40 years and a maximum "of the rest of your natural life." Groat recommended that the maximum penalty be imposed.

Under the sentence, Lobaido would not be eligible for parole until after 40 years.

34f

Youth Sentenced On Rape Charge; Gets 3-15 Years

The Chronicle
Detroit, Mich.
Sat. 9-8-46

Robert Thomas Burley, 19, 546 Bethune, was sentenced to serve three to 15 years on two charges of rape. He pleaded guilty to raping a 15-year-old girl in the home of his friend, Ronald Neal, 17, of [illegible] St. Antoine.

The complainant testified that Burley and Neal criminally assaulted her last July 15. Neal, a promising young bowler, denied the charges. However, Neal was convicted by a jury on two charges of rape. He will be sentenced by Recorder's Judge George Murphy on Sept. 30.

34f

Oakie Thaxton, veteran charged with common law rape plead guilty to the charge Monday before Recorder's Judge O. Z. Ide, waived examination and was placed on a $5,000 bond, two sureties.

According to police, Thaxton, 23, of 4606 Rivard admitted an assault upon a 42-year-old visitor from Cleveland. Police say the couple had drinks in a bar and that Thaxton raped and robbed her while in an alley near Tireman last week.

Negro Ex-Grid Star Convicted of Rape

The Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Detroit, Nov. 21 (AP)—Guy Brown, 21, former Negro athlete at the University of Detroit, today was convicted of rape by an all-white jury which deliberated only three minutes.

The husky former football star was accused of attacking blond Buelah Wittenmyer, 21-year-old divorcee, on Aug. 28. Brown and his wife, Veda, testified he was home in bed at the time.

A courtroom about holf-filled with white and Negro spectators greeted the verdict in silence. Brown showed no outward emotion. Mon. 11-22-46

Recorder's judge O. Z. Ide set Nov. 27 for sentencing.

Brown, who was once voted the university's most valuable athlete, was picked up Sept. 20, on the afternoon of U. of D.'s opening game with Wayne University on a purse-snatching charge. In a subsequent police lineup he was identified by Mrs. Witenmyer as her attacker. Brown was returned to jail where he has been held under $40,000 bond.

34f

Guy Brown Given 15-25 Year Term

The Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

DETROIT — Guy Fredrick Brown, 22, former University of Detroit football star, began serving on Thanksgiving Day a sentence of 15 to 25 years in the State prison at Jackson for criminal assault. Sat. 12-7-46

Brown, named "Athlete of the Year" at the University of Detroit, a Catholic Institution, in 1945, was sentenced last Wednesday. He was convicted the week before of the charge of attacking a 21-year-old white waitress on Aug. 28.

Recorder's Judge O. Z. Ide, who imposed sentence, recommended that Brown serve 20 years. Another case charging him with attacking a woman last Aug. 8 is still pending.

Brown Maintains Innocence

"Regardless of the verdict, I am innocent of this charge," Brown told the court. His alibi, concurred in by his wife, Vada, was that he was at home with her on the night of the alleged attack.

The probation and psychiatric report on Brown described him as "a psychopathic personality of the egocentric type and potentially assaultive." The report recomended that he be committed to an institution.

Brown was conviced of third-degree assault in the State of Washington in 1944 and served six months. For this offense he was dishonorably discharged from the Navy. He also was placed on probation for six months last January in Recorder's Court here, for accosting and soliciting.

7325

Investigate Rape Charges Against Two

The Call
Kansas City, Mo.
1-11-46

JACKSON, Miss. — (ANP) — Plans for further legal action in Mississippi rape cases by the Southern Youth council, the N.A.A.C.P. and probably the American Civil Liberties union, were revealed here last week following a visit to Jackson and Laurel for preliminary investigation by Louis E. Burnam of the Birmingham Office of the Southern Negro Youth congress.

The cases under investigation were those of Willie McGee, of Laurel, and Sherman Street and Albert Lee of Jackson.

In the Laurel case, Willie McGee was sentenced to death on a charge of rape after trial in which the jury deliberated only one and one-half minutes. In the case of Sherman Street in Jackson the death sentence was imposed after the jury deliberated two minutes. Also in Jackson, Albert Lee, 17-year old student, was sentenced to 18 years in the penitentiary on a charge of attempted rape.

34k

In Laurel the investigation revealed that there are many white citizens who doubted the attack charge placed against McGee, who it was alleged to have entered the home of a white mother on Nov. 2, and attacked her while her sick child slept beside her in the bed, and while her husband was asleep in an adjoining room.

1-11-46

Order Sanity Test

In the trial of McGee, which took place on Dec. 6, with the presence of state militiamen sent by the governor to prevent any attempt at a rumored lynching, the trial judge refused a request by the court-appointed attorney for the accused to call in competent physicians to give the defendant a sanity test. Several of the jurors were picked at random from the streets after the regular panel had been exhausted, it was reported.

After refusing the request of defendant's counsel for competent sanity examinations, the court called in several non-professional persons who readily declared the defendant sane and the trial proceeded, according to schedule.

McGee, who was normal at the time of his arrest, was suffering from a severe mental condition at the trial, which is said to have resulted in part, from the beating he allegedly had received following his arrest and before his removal to the Hinds county jail in Jackson for safekeeping.

In the case of Sherman Street, the investigation revealed several angles, which Mr. Burnham said warranted further study. Street, it was revealed, had been a leader in the efforts to obtain back salaries from his former employers as a result of which the employers were found to have owed large sums in back wages. It was also revealed that a previous charge of attempted rape against Street, for which he was acquitted, resulted from a similar relationship with an employed in Belzoni, Miss.

Evidence of Violation

In the case of Albert Lee, who was arrested the day following his arrival from Southern Christian institute, where he had graduated after a four-year attendance, Lee was charged with attempted rape after being picked up by police enroute home. An attempt had been made to enter the home of a white family in the Bailey avenue section of North Jackson and had been frustrated by the cries of a young girl occupant of the room through which the entry was attempted.

34k 1-11-46

Mr. Burnham said here that in all the cases there was abundant evidence of violation of the right of trial by "due process of law;" that in all the cases alleged confessions were obtained under the strongest kind of duress and that the closed door sessions of the trial courts amounted to nothing less than "star chamber proceedings" with the very atmosphere and surroundings of the court making it impossible to secure a fair trial.

Fight to Halt Mississippi Legal Lynching

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

The fight to save the life of Willie McGee, 30-year old Negro of Laurel, Miss. under death sentence on a rape charge, has been taken over by the newly-formed Civil Rights Congress, it was announced

34k

Arnaud d'Usseau and James Gow, co-author of **Deep Are the Roots**, appealed for contributions to aid the campaign.

Sat 5-11-46

Charged with rape of a white woman whose only identification of her assailant was that he "had kinky hair and wore a sweatshirt", McGee was convicted, according to CRC officials, on the basis of an "unbelievable tale of rape without waking a child in the same bed, another in the same room and a husband in the next room."

McGee was given a brief sanity trial and sentenced in one day despite protests of court-appointed attorneys that there was no time to prepare a defense and that his physical condition was such that he was incapable of communicating with them. Sentenced to die in the chair, he was granted a stay on appeal.

Negro Admits Assault Before Electrocution

Birmingham World
Birmingham, Ala.

JACKSON, Miss., July 19—(AP)—Sherman Street, 31-year-old Negro, was electrocuted here early today for the rape of a 11-year-old white girl of Jackson last October.

34k

The Negro met death in the basement of the Hinds County courthouse. Fri 7-19-46

As he was being strapped into the chair at 12:32 a.m., Street called for Jailer L. W. Herring and admitted the crime, saying he didn't want to die with a lie on my lips."

At the same time Street asked forgiveness of Herring for the unsuccessful jailbreak of last December, engineered by Willie McGee, Laurel Negro, and Street, in which Herring was injured.

Street went to the chair with a handful of witnesses, including newspaper men present. He was declared dead two minutes after the first shock by two local physicians. Fri 7-19-46

Mississippian in Life Defense On Second Occasion

The World
Memphis, Tenn.
Tues. 10-15-46

NEW YORK, N. Y.—A 25-year old Mississippi Negro charged with attacking a white woman went on trial for his life for the second time October 7 in the circuit court in Laurel, Mississippi.

34k

The defendant, Willie McGee was sentenced to death by the same court in December, 1945. On an appeal taken by the Civil Rights Congress, 205 E. 42nd Street, New York, N. Y., the first conviction was set aside and a new trial ordered on June 10, 1946, by unanimous decision of the Supreme Court of Mississippi. The state court's ruling that the necessity of having troops on hand to protect the defendant was prima facie evidence of the need for a change of venue and was hailed as a history making precedent toward more substantial justice for Negroes on trial in courts of the deep South.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE

At the first trial, Mrs. Troy Hawkins of Laurel testified that an unknown Negro had entered her home at 4:00 a. m. on the morning of Nov. 3, 1945, assaulted her and made his escape, without waking a child asleep in the same bed with her or her husband and two other children in an adjoining room. She stated that she had not cried out for fear of waking the children. Willie McGee was connected with the alleged crime by circumstantial evidence.

At this trial, McGee was defended by attorneys appointed by the court and no defense testimony was offered. The courtroom was cleared when the prosecuting witness testified. The all-white jury required two minutes to reach the death verdict. The defendant was escorted to and from the trial by state militia, the Sheriff of Jones County having informed the Governor that he was unable to protect the prisoner from mob violence.

The Civil Rights Congress has employed the Jackson, Miss., firm of Pyles and Calhoun to defend McGee at the second trial. The defense presented another motion for change of venue at yesterday's trial opening.

Mississippi Rapist Given Death Sentence

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Hattiesburg, Miss., Nov. 13 (AP)—A Forrest County Circuit Court jury late today convicted Willie McGee, Laurel Negro, in his second trial on a charge of raping a white woman. He immediately was sentenced to die December 20 in the electric chair. The jury was out 11 minutes. 11-14-46

34k

Refuses Trial 'Behind Guns'

PM
New York, N.Y.
Thurs. 10-17-46

A Laurel, Miss., judge who "refused to try a case behind the guns of soldiers" granted a dramatic change of venue yesterday for the new trial of Willie McGee, 25-year-old Negro who last December was sentenced to death by an all-white jury on a rape charge.

34k

Judge John Stinnes' decision came as a complete surprise to the tensely packed Jones County courtroom, deep in "Bilbo country." A contingent of 100 state militia had been assigned to the trial.

Last December's jury had taken exactly 2½ minutes to convict McGee after a one-day trial. Attorneys retained by the Civil Rights Congress appealed, charging the trial had been conducted in a lynch atmosphere. The State Supreme Court ordered a new trial.

Defense counsel's bid for a change of venue was denied last week by Judge Burkitt Collins. He set the trial for yesterday. Yesterday, however, Judge Collins excused himself on the grounds his wife was ill. Defense counsel moved for a mistrial, but the court ordered Judge Stinnes to take over. Stinnes took one look at the militia-packed courtroom, and ordered a change of venue to nearby Forrest County.

Negro Again Convicted Of Attacking Woman

The News
Birmingham, Ala.

HATTIESBURG, Miss., Nov. 14—(AP)—Convicted a second time of raping a white woman, Willie McGee, Laurel Negro, faces death in the electric chair Dec. 20.

34k

A Forrest County Circuit Court jury yesterday after 11 minutes' deliberation returned a verdict of guilty. Judge Burkitt Collins pronounced the death sentence immediately. Thurs. 11-14-46

McGee was first convicted last December and sentenced to die Jan. 7. His case was appealed and a retrial ordered.

Defense attorneys after the conviction yesterday said they would again appeal.

34f 1946

Missouri

7326

Cochran Gets Death Sentence

The Call

Kansas City, Mo.

6-7-46

Found Guilty in Slaying of Miss Marylou Jenkins

COLUMBIA, Mo.— Floyd Cochran, 34, was sentenced to death late Wednesday night by an all-white jury in the Boone County circuit court who found him guilty in the first degree murder Feb. 5 of Miss Marylou Jenkins, 20-year-old student of Stephens college. The jury deliberated almost four hours.

34f

The girl's body was found raped and slain at the Jenkins home by the girl's mother, Mrs. [illegible] D. Jenkins, Columbia nurse, on the morning of Feb. 6. 6-7-46

Three Negroes were among a special venire of 42 persons to be selected for jury duty in the case for the first time in the history of the county, after Judge W. M. Dinwiddie Monday quashed the regular panel because Negroes had not been represented in its selection. Two of the Negroes were excused because they already had opinions on the case, and the other, William Wynn, principal of Douglass school here, was scratched by one of the attorneys.

34f

A crowded courtroom heard the verdict read in the 3-day trial by Judge Dinwiddie. The verdict was signed by C. R. McCallister, jury foreman. Kansas City, Mo.

Henry W. Simpson, defense attorney, was granted until June 27 in which to file a motion for a new trial.

Mrs. Jenkins testified Tuesday of returning home from overnight nursing duty and finding her daughter's body on the floor of her bedroom with an electric light cord twisted around her neck.

Judge Dinwiddie had instructed the jury that death following an attempt at rape constitutes first degree murder. He added in his instructions that the jury must acquit Cochran if it believed him to be insane and to disregard his confessions if they believed them not voluntary.

Death Given Attacker

COLUMBIA, Mo. May 30—(AP)—Death in the state prison gas chamber awaited Floyd Cochran, 34-year-old Negro trash hauler, today for the rape-slaying of Marylou Jenkins, 20-year-old Stephen College graduate.

34f

Cochran sat impassive, as he heard the Circuit Court Jury's verdict last night sentencing him to death. The girl's body was found by her mother last Feb. 5 in her home. She had been ravished and strangled. 5-30-46 News

7327

2 THUGS GET 5 YEARS FOR ATTACKING WAC

34K

Jack Colletti and Phil Fusco, 20-year-old lower East Side thugs, were sentenced yesterday in General Sessions to Sing Sing terms of five to ten years each. They had pleaded guilty to attempted rape of a Halloran Hospital Wac in a Second Street tenement hallway, near the Bowery after they had beaten off her wounded soldier escort.

"I shall show no mercy in their sentences," Judge Owen W. Bohan retorted to a clemency plea of the lawyer for the pair. "The attack was on a woman in an American Army uniform and I shall impose the maximum sentence in each."

N.Y.

Angelo [illegible], 18, of 201 East Fourteenth Street, who was arrested as the suspected confederate of Colletti and Fusco in the theft of $92 from the Wac, is awaiting a General Sessions trial on his not-guilty plea.

Times

Private Clifford Davis, a patient at the Army hospital from wounds received in the South Pacific fighting, was walking with the Wac on a sight-seeing trip down the Bowery in the early morning of Jan. 12 when three thugs drove up to the curb beside them at East Houston Street and started to drag the Wac into their car. Davis attempted to protect her. He was felled with blows and kicks and the thugs sped off with the screaming Wac in the car.

1-12-46

New York N.Y.

Soon after the Wac, her face covered with bruises, staggered into the Fifth Street Station and told her story. She said one of the attackers had a birthmark on his face. Less than an hour later detectives arrested Fusco, asleep in a car near his home at 29 First Street. He has a birthmark on his face. 1-12-46

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2 Get Chair For Brooklyn Rape-Killing

P.M. New York N.Y.

Friday 6-28-46

34K

Arthur Johnson and William Washington were doomed to the electric chair last night for the rape-murder of 15-year-old Rose Palermo in a darkened Brooklyn hallway the night of Feb. 2.

An all-male jury took a little less than three hours to return its verdict of murder in the first degree without recommendation of mercy. The jury's decision not to urge mercy makes the death sentence mandatory.

N.Y.

Only after the verdict was announced did it become known why, in the testimony Wednesday, the jury was denied knowledge of part of Johnson's police record.

His convictions on felony and misdemeanor charges were brought out, and the fact of a later arrest was barely mentioned before the witness was shushed. The reason became clear when Johnson gave the court clerk his history after the verdict.

He said that on Feb. 17, just 15 days after Miss Palermo was killed, he was caught in Brownsville after knocking a woman down and trying to rape her. It was while he was in jail for this that he was charged with the Palermo murder. The knowledge of the Bronsville attack was kept from the jury to assure that he would not be prejudged. 6-28-46 P.M.

The two defense attorneys, former Magistrate Leo Healy and former Col. William Kleinman, each took 45 minutes for their summations, with which the morning session opened. Assistant District Attorney Julius Helfand's 90-minute address filled the rest of the morning session. After lunch County Judge Samuel Leibowitz talked from 2 p.m. to 4:10 p.m., when the jurors retired.

They came back in five minutes to ask for a legal dictionary which Leibowitz refused to give them, saying he was available if they wanted any instructions. The jury returned at 7:05. P.M.

Leibowitz denied defense motions to set the verdict aside and remanded the two men to jail pending sentence.

Rape-Killing Jury Chosen

P.M. New York N.Y.

Tuesday 25-46

34K

A blue-ribbon jury of 12 men was chosen in Kings County Court yesterday to try William Washington, 28, and Arthur Johnson, 21, both of Brooklyn, on first-degree murder charges in the rape-killing of 15-year-old Rose Palermo the night of Feb. 2 in a vacant house near her home at 20A Louis Pl. The accused are Negroes, so Judge Samuel A. Leibowitz warned the panel that "race or prejudice can have no part in this trial—bias and bigotry have no place in a jury box." Testimony in the case, expected to take four to six days, will get under way when the trial resumes at 10 a.m. today.

N.Y.

Rape-Murderers Will Die Sept. 8

Amsterdam News

New York, N.Y.

Climaxing one of the most sensational murder cases involving Negroes of the Bedford-Stuyvesant sector was the decree of death in the electric chair on September 8, for the two convicted slayers of a 15-year-old graduate.

34K

The decree was handed down by Judge Samuel S. Leibowitz on Thursday and followed closely on the June 2 conviction of the jury in Kings County Court when specifications were made that no recommendations for clemency would be considered. 8-10-46 N.Y.

The two men, William Washington, 28, of 1982 Pacific St., and Arthur Johnson, 21, of 2002 Fulton St., were convicted on June 2, of the rape-murder of Rose Palmero, 15, within a few doors of her home.

Both of the condemed men are reported as having police records and according to a star witness for the State, one of the defendant's related to him the events leading up to and including the actual crime.

2D COUNTY INDICTS 3 IN HOLD-UP SLAYINGS

The New York Times

New York N.Y.

34K

The New York County grand jury yesterday filed a first-degree murder indictment in General Sessions against Edward Kahkoska, Edward Koberski and Henry Suckow, three Army veterans, in the hold-up killing of Jocelyn Hylands, 20 years old, also a soldier veteran, in the early morning of June 8, in Central Park, opposite East Ninety-eighth Street.

N.Y.

The three, however, will not be arraigned for pleading on this indictment until the finish of their first-degree murder trial in Queens, beginning July 15, in the fatal shooting on the same morning of Anthony Marchisella, a Navy veteran, in the hold-up of the victim and another man in an automobile in Astoria Park. Sat. 6-29-46

Yvonne Kenny, 18, of 60 West Ninety-eighth Street, a high school student, was seated with Hylands on a bench when, it is alleged, he was beaten by the three men, two of whom also raped the girl. Kahkoska, Koberski and Suckow, whose ages are 21, 22 and 23, respectively, lived in Astoria. They were arested eleven days after the two slayings.

The indictment was handed up yesterday to Judge Owen W. Bohan by the grand jury headed by John B. Clark, a thread manufacturer of 745 Fifth Avenue.

When the three men were arraigned on the Queens indictment earlier in the week Suckow announced he had retained two lawyers, one of whom was his commanding officer overseas. County Judge Thomas Downs assigned three lawyers to defend Koberski and the same number for Kahkoska.

Sat. 6-29-46

Johnson Gets 15-Yr. Sentence

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

34K N.Y.

James Johnson, convicted of "attempted" rape, robbery, second-degree assault and larceny in the case involving Gloria Paterno, 18-year-old Jamaica girl, was yesterday sentenced to from 15 to 30 years by Judge Downs of the Queens County Court. Thurs. 10-31-46

The National Equal Rights League, which provided counsel for Johnson, announced that an appeal will be sought.

When he pronounced sentence, Judge Downs alluded to "muggers" and "we don't like them in Queens." Johnson was convicted by an all-white jury in an atmosphere of hysteria and red-baiting on the part of Downs, who assailed Rev. Gentral Mack and Solomon Harper, of the NERL.

Bloodthirsty Whites Stirred to Action After Johnson Trial

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md

NEW YORK—Irate white residents of Jamaica, L.I., in a special meeting at Jamaica High School, succeeded in getting a resolution passed asking for a "call to arms" and practically an out-and-out lynching of so-called attackers of white women in Queens.

34K

The meeting was called following the filing of a notice of appeal by attorneys of James Johnson, who was recently convicted for attempted criminal attack and assault on Gloria Paterno, an 18-year-old white girl, and sentenced to a term of 15 to 30 years in Sing Sing. Sat. 12-21-46

Sentence Too Light

Disturbed by investigations of the National Equal Rights League to prove Johnson innocent, speakers at the Klan-inspired rally said the sentence made by Judge Thomas Downs was too light, and that the death penalty should be imposed.

The resolution included such a statement as "the penalties now imposed by the State are insufficient to accomplish the purpose of deterring offenders from committing crimes. The penalty should be increased to capital punishment.

Copies of the resolution were sent to the Central Queens Allied Civic Council, which will be asked to adopt a similar resolution, and to the members of the Legislature.

Doubt Guilt Of Doomed Rapists

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois

White Woman's Tale Convicts N.C. Men

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

LUMBERTON, N. C.—Though four Negroes were convicted Saturday, April 20, by an all-white jury on charges of raping a white woman and have been sentenced to die in the gas chamber in July by Judge Clawson Williams, there is considerable doubt in the community as to their guilt.

34K

The four doomed Negroes are Granger Thompson, 21; Stacey Hall, 23; Clyde Covington, 18, and Cliff Inman.

The first three—Thompson, Hall and Covington—admitted having intercourse with the woman, Mrs. Dorothy B. Frye, but contended the act was voluntary on her part and that they paid her money. Inman has insisted ever since his arrest that he had no relations with the woman.

Sat 4-27-46

Appeal Decision

Though circumstances of the incident cast grave doubt upon the rape charge, the defense, handled by Atty. J. S. Bowser, has been unable to introduce evidence supporting the men's contentions. However, the verdict has been appealed to the Supreme Court and a delay in carrying out the sentence is probable.

Evidence introduced at the week-long trial that opened Monday, April 15, unraveled the following story:

Mrs. Frye, wife of a local labor leader, accompanied by a white man, not her husband, drove into the colored section of Lumberton in search of whiskey.

Woman Tells Story

The car became stalled, and the white man went off in search of a tow chain. During his absence, according to the woman's story, the four Negroes dragged her from the car, took her to a nearby uncompleted house and forcibly raped her, after which she walked to the white section of town and reported the incident to police. The arrest of the four men followed.

They were immediately rushed to the state penitentiary in Raleigh for safe keeping.

It was evident from the conduct of Sheriff Clyde Wade, during the trial, that he desired the conviction of the men. At one time on the stand, he testified that three of the men had confessed their guilt to him at the state prison.

It was only through the cross questioning of the defense attorney that the sheriff admitted that he had not told the whole truth and that the men had admitted having relations with the woman, but that they had paid her and no force was used. Sat 4-27-46

Much of the sympathy for the doomed men—and much of it is among the whites here—is based upon disapproval of the Frye woman driving into the colored section and the reason she gave for going there. It was not clear to many who attended the trial the role of her white male companion.

Justice In N.C. Cases Questioned

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

RALEIGH, N.C.—Resolved to give "justice" to any and all involved in cases of the Southern white man's greatest "bugaboo" (insult to white womanhood), police officers here are resorting to Gestapo-like treatment of suspects, it is revealed. Sat.

34K

One of the "bugaboo" cases involves Wilbert Johnson and Charles Primus Jr., both convicted and sentenced to death last September for assaulting a Wake County white woman. 4-27-46

The judgment was arrested on Tuesday by the State Supreme Court, which held that the original indictments were fatally defective in that they failed to allege that the crime was committed by force.

Same Sentence Expected

Therefore, the court ruled, the death sentences could not be carried out legally, new indictments would have to be prepared, and according to local papers, the accused will get "another day in court," probably in June.

The ominous thing about this democratic but unusual application of Southern justice is that by reference to giving the men "another day in court," the papers infer that the same sentences will be meted out when the indictment is corrected. 4-27-46

34K

Full Denial by One

Johnson is reported to have steadfastly denied both the actual crime and any knowledge that Primus planned the attack, while Primus is said to have confessed the crime to officers who testified at the trial.

The original warrant charges the two with criminal assault and robbery after accosting the woman and a male companion while they were parked at night on a rural road.

Sat.

Money Cited in Second Case

The other "bugaboo" case, now being tried in Lumberton, involves three men reported to have admitted relations with a white woman and a fourth who denies the act or ever having seen the woman before he was brought to trial.

Granger Thompson, 21; Stacy Powell, 23, and Calvin Covington, 18, are reported to have admitted having had relations with the woman on the night of March 17, but with her consent and by agreement that they were to pay her money.

Fourth Pleads Innocence

The fourth man, Clifton Inman, 17, has pleaded innocence, declaring that he left the vicinity of the alleged crime immediately after helping start the car owned by Frank Straughan, white, who had accompanied the woman into the colored section in search of liquor.

His testimony has been backed by Lorenzo McKee.

Conduct by officers, reminiscent of that of German gestapo or Japanese Kempei-tai has been intimated by Thompson, Powell and Covington.

Afraid Not to Confess

The three testified recently that they were beaten by town and county officers and on the trip from Lumberton to this city, where they are being held "as a precautionary measure."

N.C.

Powell declared further that he had implicated Inman because a deputy had been beating him and he was afraid not to say "what they wanted me to." 4-27-46

Sheriff Clyde Wade testified that the three men confessed having had relations with the woman, Mrs. Dorothy Frye, and that Thompson said that he took the woman from the car and into a nearby house where the acts occurred.

Blames Lawyer

However, he added, no mention of voluntary participation by the woman or any payment to her was mentioned until after their attorney, J. S. Bowser of Charlotte had visited them.

Sat.

Bowser is colored and it seems an attempt is being made to make it appear he suggested that the men claim consent and a money agreement with the woman.

Court precautions to keep the "bugaboo" from exciting whites to unlawful actions include removing the prisoners from the court-room each noon and evening before recessing the court.

Jamaica Communists Aid Framed Negro

The Worker N.Y. N.Y.

Jamaica, N. Y.

Editor, The Worker:

34K

Following is a copy of a letter sent to L. W. Wertz, Box 909, Hamlet, North Carolina, for the Benton defense fund:

"Enclosed please find check for $3.25 which was collected last night at a regular meeting of the North Jamaica Communist Party branch. Sun. 5-26-46

"We share with you your deep trouble, and burn with anger and shame at the treatment being given to the Negro people in our country. New York, N.Y.

"Benton is a victim of a nation-wide conspiracy on the part of Big Business to destroy the living standards and liberties of all the people, white and Negro. The Negroes are the first victims, but if they are pushed back, the rest of us are doomed.

"Therefore, our fight for Major Benton and Negro rights is also a fight for our own democratic rights and living standards.

"Let us fight to save Benton and press on to the final liberation of all the people from the clutches of monopoly capitalism."

G. G., for N. Jamaica Club.

Civil Rights Body Enters Benton Case

The Worker

Sun. 5-26-46

34K

Terming "the sentencing to death of Major Benton "another instance of legal lynching of Negroes by southern courts," the Civil Rights Congress launched a campaign last week to aid the Hamlet, N. C. defense committee in its fight for a new trial for the condemned man. Sun. 5-26-46

"The fact that no Negro has ever sat on a jury in Richmond County where Benton was convicted is indicative of the chance a Negro has there," said Emanuel H. Bloch, CRC attorney and former counsel for FEPC." New York

Contributions to the defense of Benton should be sent to the Civil Rights Congress, 205 E. 42 St., New York, N. Y., or to Rev. L.W. Wertz, Box 909, Hamlet, N C., who heads the local defense committee. N.Y.

Charge Benton Framed In N.C.

Defender

Chicago, Ill.

Negro Sentenced To Die For 'Rape'

Defender

HAMLET, N. C.—Charges of a frameup against Major Benton, 26-year-old Negro war veteran, were made this week by citizens here who have begun a fight to save him from execution in the gas chamber for the alleged rape of a white woman on Christmas Eve, 1945. 5-25-46 Sat

34K

Benton was convicted April 18 by a lily-white jury which heard the victim, Mrs. Elizabeth Freeman, climax her description of her assailant with the statement, "I just knew it was a man and took it to be a colored man."

A reporter for the New York newspaper, The Worker, who made a personal investigation of the case, revealed Sunday that the accused man denied his guilt on the witness stand during the trial, but the jury was excluded from the court room at the time.

Pleads For Justice

In a death-house plea this week Benton appealed for aid from the American people. Chicago, Ill.

"I am innocent of the charge of rape for which I was convicted and for which I have been sentenced," he said.

Asserting that police had starved and beaten him during 10 hours of grilling, Benton said "I signed a piece of paper with some typewriting on it. Now they say I admitted the crime. I didn't know what was on that paper. I didn't commit the crime."

Signing the statement before his pastor and grandfather, Benton asked aid "so I, an innocent man, will not have to die for a crime I never committed."

Negroes Barred From Jury

It was also disclosed that there were no Negroes on the April jury panel from which the Benton jury was chosen. The County Clerk and officials of the Sheriff's office admitted that no Negro taxpayer ever served or was called to serve on a Richmond jury.

Sentenced to die May 31, Benton will get an automatic stay until fall through the notice of appeal to the North Carolina Supreme Court filed by Edgar W. Jones and W. E. Jones, local attorneys for the defense.

Additional facts brought to light by the Worker reporter's investigation showed that two witnesses testified that Benton was a visitor in their homes far from the scene of the alleged crime during the time the rape was said to have been committed. 5-25-46

Can't Identify Man

Mrs. Freeman testified she was dragged into a clump of bushes near the Hamlet Community Center and raped around 9:30 Christmas Eve by a man who "choked" her and threatened to kill her if she made an outcry.

"I didn't see the man that assaulted me any more after that and I had never seen him before to my knowledge," said Mrs. Freeman when asked by the State Solicitor to describe the assailant.

"The man that assaulted me was a colored man," she told the court. "I couldn't tell how dark he was because it was dark and raining."

Demand New Trial

Mrs. Anna Leadbetter and Mrs. Elizabeth Gould, local Negro housewives, testified Benton was in the Leadbetter home along with two other persons at the time the "rape" occurred.

A local defense committee, headed by the Rev. L. W. Wertz, Baptist minister, has been actively working to prove Benton's innocence. Emanuel H. Bloch, attorney for the Congress on Civil Rights and former counsel for the U. S. Fair Employment Practice Committee, arrived here to lead the legal fight for a new trial.

Statements May Save Lives of 4

Afro-American

34K

Baltimore, Md.

LUMBERTON, N.C.—Evidence that Mrs. Dorothy Lou Fry, whose claim of being criminally assaulted by four men was responsible for their being condemned to death, was of bad character was contained in the motions for a new trial for the men, filed here last week. Sat. 1-4-47

The white woman, at the trial of the men, had testified that she had never been intimate with any other man but her husband until she was attacked.

The statements asking the new trial are to the effect that she was in a very intoxicated condition when she was admitted to the hospital on the night of the encounter.

Eviction Asked

The statements further point out that she told persons at the hospial tha she has had sex relations with as many as 14 colored men, and disclose that her reputation from a moral standpoint is so bad that neighbors had requested her eviction from her home.

In the meanwhile, a reprieve has been granted the condemned men by Governor Cherry. They were scheduled to be killed in the gas chamber on Feb. 14. The Lumberton Ministerial Association, white, requested commutation of their sentences.

Negro Reveals Death Threats To Force 'Rape' Confession

Daily Worker

By Harry Raymond

RALEIGH, N. C., May 19.—"I am innocent of the charge of rape for which I was convicted and for which I have been sentenced to die." With these words Major Benton, 26-year-old Negro U.S. cavalry veteran, appealed from the death house in North Carolina State Prison to the American people. (Major is the first name of Benton, not a military title.)

34

In a statement signed in death row in the presence of his pastor and grandfather, Benton asked the people, white and Negro, "to support the fight for justice so I, an innocent man, will not have to die for a crime I never committed."

"The State built its whole case on a so-called confession I was said to have made after police grilled me continuously for eight hours one day and more that two hours the next day," the condemned Negro declared. 5-20-46

"I was starved during this time and threats were made against my life if I refused to admit the crime. I was afraid that the police would cause their threats to be carried out and I did what the police asked me to do. I signed a piece of paper with some typewriting on it. Now they say I admitted the crime. I do not know what was on that paper. I did not commit the crime." Monday.

Benton's denial, made on May 14, in the presence of the Rev. L. W. Wertz, Baptist clergyman, and Verge Pratt, Benton's 75-year-old grandfather, both of Hamlet, N. C., follows a similar denial made on the witness stand during his trial in Rockingham April 11, 12 and 13. I accompanied the two on the visit to death row.

Mrs. Elizabeth Freeman, 49, the woman allegedly raped behind the Community Center in Hamlet Christmas eve, 1945, did not identify Benton as her attacker. The all-white Richmond County jury stood 7 to 5 for conviction from 5:30 p. m. April 12 until 10 a.m. April 13. The "guilty" verdict came an hour later after County Judge Donald Phillips scolded the jury for failure to reach a verdict.

I made a trip to the Central Prison with Rev. Wertz and Grandfather Pratt after making an investigation of the Benton case in Hamlet and Rockingham. My investigation convinced me Benton did not receive a fair trial, that evidence pointed to his innocence rather than his guilt. His denial of guilt in the death house strengthened this belief.

DISABILITY DISCHARGE

A railroad laborer, Benton was inducted into the Army November, 1941. He served in the cavalry until Aug. 4, 1943, when he was honorably discharged at Fort Clark, with a deformed arm. For this disability received in service, Benton is presently receiving U. S. Government compensation of $47.50 a month.

Benton's record in Hamlet, a Jimcrow town of 5,000, has been a good one, according to residents of the community. His only brush with the law was an arrest on a charge of "drunkenness" during a routine police raid of the Negro neighborhood. This arrest has a close connection with the charge of rape of a white woman.

Three days after the alleged rape was said to have been committed Benton was splitting wood in his grandfather's yard. At that time Hamlet Police Chief Albert Gibson was busy notifying all persons who had been fined but had failed to pay during the year to go to police headquarters and pay up.

Benton was one of those notified. He had an unpaid fine on the "drunk" charge. He left his work and rushed to police headquarters to settle the matter.

But when Gibson got Benton in headquarters he sized him up as a likely person to charge with the alleged Christmas eve rape. Gibson and three Seaboard Railroad detectives—Sam McGirt, W. A. Lucas and a Mr. Eacho—grilled the Negro veteran. They learned he regularly visited Miss Blanche Dove, his girl friend, where she did housework for a white family. The alleged rape was committed near this white family's house. 5-20-46

MAGAZINE DEDUCTION

On the basis of detective magazine deduction, Gibson and the railroad agents accused Benton of the rape. Here was one Negro, they deduced, who regularly visited the scene of the alleged assault.

The accused Negro denied the crime. He told police and railroad agents he was not in the neighborhood of the assault on Christmas eve. He said he was out with a friend, Lonnie Lilly, on a pre-Christmas celebration. Later, under police threats, he signed a so-called confession.

During the trial witnesses testified Benton and Lilly were having some drinks in the home of Mrs. Anna Leadbetter between 9:30 and 10 p. m. at the time the assault on Mrs. Freeman was said to have been committed. It was further testified Benton and Lilly then went across the street to Mrs. Gould's home for a "chitting" party and some more drinks. Benton left there about 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning.

CAME HOME EARLY

5-20-46

Benton's grandfather testified his grandson, Major, came home early in the morning, had a sandwich and went to bed. Persons in the Leadbetter and Gould houses and Grandfather Pratt say Major Benton wore a long overcoat that night.

Testimony of Mrs. Freeman and other prosecution witnesses showed Mrs. Freeman's attacker wore a short jacket.

Other testimony revealed Benton had many drinks on Christmas eve and was considerably under the influence of alcohol.

Mrs. Freeman testified the man who attacked her did not smell of liquor, nor was he drunk.

The Benton case significantly follows an attempt of a mob of armed white men to lynch Robert Younger, Negro cook, in Rockingham, last October.

Younger had been ordered by the restaurant owner not to allow the white waitresses to use the electric toaster. When Younger told a white waitress of his orders and she refused to obey, he pulled the electric plug from the wall. The plug lightly struck the waitress on the hand. She went screaming to white men that she had been attacked by the Negro cook. A mob formed bent on lynching him.

STORM JAIL

But Negro friends rescued Younger. They put him in a fast car, drove him to Hamlet, where he went to bed. The mob, however, followed him and surrounded the house. Police then took Younger to the Hamlet jail and charged him with assaulting the white woman.

The mob stormed the jail, Younger was again spirited off, this time by police, to another jail in another county.

Finally Younger was tried in a courthouse surrounded by State Guardsmen with bayoneted rifles. The waitress admitted on the stand Younger did not attack her. She told the truth about the electric plug striking her hand. The judge ordered Younger freed. But the temper of hostile white men in Hamlet and Rockingham forced Younger to flee Richmond County, breaking up his family, to find work elsewhere.

It was in this tense Jimcrow atmosphere that the Major Benton case developed.

The attempt to send Major Benton to the gas chamber is clearly part of a growing reactionary campaign of intimidation of Negroes in the South.

Negroes are still denied the right to sit on juries in Richmond County. Although lawyers advised me failure of Benton's attorneys to raise this jury question during the trial will prevent the matter from being argued before the North Carolina Supreme Court as one of the reasons for a new trial, it remains clear the Negro veteran was tried illegally nevertheless.

I examined the jury lists in Richmond County Court House and was assured no Negro taxpayer was on the jury panel from which Benton's jurors were drawn.

The Richmond County Register of Deeds, County Clerk and a Deputy Sheriff told me definitely no Negroes had ever been called for jury duty in the county to their knowledge. Negroes have served on Federal juries, but not in County Court

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Man Convicted On Rape Charge Given New Trial in N. C.

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.
Fri. 34 12-13-46

NEW YORK.—A new trial for Major Benton, disabled Negro vet sentenced to death on an alleged rape charge was ordered last week by the Supreme Court of the State of North Carolina. Based on an appeal submitted by Civil Rights Congress attorneys, headed by R. O. Everett of Durham, N. C., the Supreme Court, in a sharply worded opinion, reversed the decision of the Richmond County Superior Court and ordered a new hearing.

Charged with raping Mrs. Elizabeth Freeman on December 24, 1945, Benton was convicted in Richmond County, April 13, and sentenced to die in the gas chamber May 31. Benton was convicted solely on the basis of a forced confession, which he later repudiated. No other evidence was offered at the trial. The victim of the alleged attack not only failed to identify Benton, but was not certain that her assailant was a Negro. Evidence in the case against Benton was so weak that the all-white jury, given the case at 5:30 April 12, was hung 7-5 at 10 the next morning. At that time the judge called the jurors back and charged them to make a quick decision. A verdict of guilty was promptly rendered.

Filing of an appeal by the Civil Rights Congress brought an automatic stay of execution.

In view of the evidence submitted in the appeal, Chief Justice Walter Stacy in writing the opinion stated, "the closing admonition by Judge Phillips invites thought that it must have impressed the jury with the strength of the State's case and the weakness of the defendant's. Globe and Independent

"Ordinarily, standing alone, this would perhaps amount to no more than a harmless inadvertence. In this case, however, it may have given color and tone to the court's charges, especially in light of the prior references to voluntariness of the confession. The defendant is entitled to another hearing, and a new trial is ordered," the opinion declared. Nashville, Tenn. Fri. 12-13-46

'Worker' Bares Frameup in Carolina

The Worker

Facts Show Innocence of Negro Vet, Now in Death House

By Harry Raymond Special Correspondent to The Worker

HAMLET, N. C.—Major Benton, 26-year-old Negro war veteran from this busy little railroad town, is languishing today in the death house in the Central State Prison in Raleigh. He is awaiting execution in the gas chamber for a crime he did not commit.

He was convicted April 13 by an all-white Richmond County jury on a charge of raping a white woman on Christmas Eve, 1945. He was sentenced to death by County Judge Donald Phillips.

N.Y. N.Y.

Major Benton did not receive a fair trial. If he had been a white man he would be free and his accusors would be hiding their faces in shame.

That is my opinion after a careful on-the-spot investigation of all the facts of the case, legal and otherwise.

That is the opinion of a local defense committee of Negro citizens, headed by the Rev. L. W. Wertz, Baptist minister.

That is the opinion of Emanuel H. Bloch, attorney for the Congress on Civil Rights and former counsel for the U. S. Fair Employment Practice Committee. Sunday

Bloch, who arrived here after The Worker appeal for legal aid to save the condemned Negro, has taken steps to protect the legal rights of Benton and to rally the full force of the Congress on Civil Rights for a new trial of the case.

Sentenced to die May 31, execution of the Negro veteran has automatically been advanced until Fall through notice of appeal to the North Carolina Supreme Court filed by Edgar W. Jones and W. R. Jones, local attorney for the defense.

But the fight for Benton's freedom, in a tense Jimcrow atmosphere, has just begun. 5-19-46

My investigation of the case, combined with a careful study of the record of the three-day trial of Benton in Rockingham, six miles from here, revealed that:

1.—Mrs. Elizabeth Freeman, star witness, testified she could not identify Benton as the man who allegedly raped her on Christmas Eve.

2.—Benton denied his guilt on the witness stand during the trial, but the jury was excluded from the trial room during his denial.

3.—Two witnesses testified Benton was a visitor in two homes far from the scene of the alleged crime during the time the crime was said to have been committed.

4.—Chief state evidence was an oral repetition by Chief of Police Albert Gibson and two railroad detectives of an alleged written confession by Benton of the crime. Benton denied making the confession, stating he signed a paper after police threatened to "cut my throat" and refused to give him food. 5-19-46

5.—Benton was convicted by an all-white jury, which stood 7 to 5 against conviction from 5:30 p. m., April 12 until 10 a. m., April 13. The "guilty" verdict came an hour later after the judge upbraided the jury for failing to reach a decision.

6.—No Negroes have ever drawn for jury service in Richmond County.

Mrs. Freeman testified she was dragged to a clump of bushes near the Hamlet Community Center and raped around 9:30 Christmas Eve by a man who "choked" her and threatened to kill her if she hollered.

"I didn't see the man that assaulted me any more after that and I had never seen him before to my knowledge," said Mrs. Freeman when asked by the State Solicitor to describe the assailant.

"The man that assaulted me was a colored man," she told the court. "I couldn't tell how dark he was because it was dark and raining."

Q. Did he appear to be a black Negro or a light colored one?

A. Well, he had a cap or a hat on his head and it was pulled down over his face and I couldn't tell much about his color; he was a little taller than I am, as well as I could tell. I was frightened. Well, no, I don't have any opinion as to his size. N.Y. N.Y.

Climaxing her "description" of the alleged assailant, Mrs Freeman told the court: "I just knew he was a man and took it to be a colored man."

The record of the trial offers no positive identification of Benton as the assailant of Mrs. Freeman.

Mrs. Anna Leadbetter and Mrs. Elizabeth Gould, local Negro housewives, testified Benton was in the Leadbetter home along with two other persons, far from the scene of the alleged rape, at the time the crime was said to have been committed. I visited these women in their homes and they repeated their story of Benton's visit. 5-19-46

The court record also shows Benton denied under oath he had committed the crime. But he was not given the right to present this testimony to the jury. His testimony was offered during an argument between counsel and the state solicitor on admissibility of the alleged confession. He was not put on the stand again when the jury returned to the courtroom.

The fact that Major Benton was tried by a Jimcrow jury and denied the right of trial by a jury of his peers, as guaranteed by the U. S. Constitution, was revealed by my extensive investigation of jury service methods in Richmond County Courthouse, Rockingham. Sun

There were no Negroes on the April jury panel, from which the Benton jury was chosen. The County Clerk and officials of the Sheriff's office told me no Negro taxpayer ever served or was called to serve on a Richmond County jury.

Benton's relatives and leading Negroes in North Carolina have asked me to bring this case to the attention of the American people. They told me to appeal to the people to support the Congress on Civil Rights in demanding a new trial for Benton.

7329

Death Clock Ticks for Negro Vet

By Harry Raymond

The Worker New York, N.Y.

7329

HAMLET, N. C.—Strangers in this little southern town complain it's hard to sleep here. No sooner does the tired traveler doze off for a night's rest in the community's lone hotel than he is shocked into startled consciousness by the window-shattering whistle blast of a north or south bound Seaboard train.

Yet one can get used to the railroad whistles in time. Local folks — four out of five of whom are railroaders — told me the whistles never bother them.

But a recent event in this otherwise quiet, semi-rural area of the south is sending out an alarm many times greater in dimension and shocking power than all the train whistles in the world. It was announced dispassionately, however, in a small local weekly newspaper as follows:

"Major Benton, colored, of Hamlet, was found guilty of rape on Saturday morning by a jury after a long period of debate. He was sentenced to die by gas in the Central Prison in Raleigh on May 31."

Today Benton, 26-year-old native of this town and disabled war veteran, sits in the death row waiting. He is protesting his innocence. Two thousand Negroes in Hamlet — nearly half the town's population — say he did not receive a fair trial. He was railroaded, they say. A new trial will prove his innocence.

Benton will not die in the horrible gas chamber in Raleigh next Friday. He will not die on May 31 because a Negro woman, formerly of Hamlet, came to The Worker early this month and asked the editors to do something to smash the frame-up.

They acted quickly. The next day I was on a train bound for Hamlet. Less than two weeks of on-the-spot investigation convinced me Benton was innocent.

Emanuel Bloch, former counsel for the U. S. Fair Employment Practices Committee, came to Hamlet and conducted a legal probe of the case. He urged action for a new trial. The Civil Rights Congress assigned attorneys to join with Edgar W. Jones and W. R. Jones, local counsel, in preparing the appeal to the North Carolina Supreme Court.

Execution of an innocent man was thus delayed. But the delay is only 60 days. Every day brings the Negro veteran closer to a new execution date.

But the Benton defense committee, formed here by the Rev. L. W. Wertz of the Friendship Baptist Church, is convinced the unjust act of the Richmond County all-white jury will be reversed if the people throughout the state and nation join in the demand for a new trial. Sun. 5-26-46

And from this town, where Main Street is no longer than Madison Square Garden, the little committee is sending out the alarm. Here are the facts:

- Benton was tried in violation of a U. S. Supreme Court decision that Negroes must be called for jury duty the same as all other citizens.
- Benton was not identified by Mrs. Elizabeth Freeman as the man alleged to have raped her last Christmas Eve.
- Benton denied his guilt in court.
- He was convicted on the basis of an alleged written confession. Benton signed it under threat of

death. He did not know what was on the paper.

Benton told the court during his trial, April 11, 12, 13:

"One of them (police and railroad detectives) said if I didn't talk he would get a crowd and have them cut my throat and another said if I didn't talk he would be a witness against me when they carried me to Raleigh."

Benton told the court he was not given food for two days while being questioned in the Hamlet jail. Sun. 5-26-46

"Did anybody ever warn you of any rights you had at any time?" Benton was asked on the witness stand.

"No sir, they didn't tell me nothing about it," he testified. "They gave me a written statement to sign late Saturday evening about 4:30. Didn't nobody read it to me. They handed it to me. Chief Gibson (Chief of Police Albert Gibson) did. They sent it out to be written on a typewriter. No sir, I didn't know what the constitution is."

The record of the Benton trial shows that even though he was convicted on the basis of the alleged confession, the document was ironically never presented to the jury as evidence.

To clear up all points about the alleged confession, I went to the Central Prison in Raleigh Nov. 14. There in death row Benton made the following signed statement:

"I am innocent of the charge of rape for which I was convicted and for which I have been sentenced to die. The woman who claimed she was raped did not identify me as her assailant. The state built its whole case on a so-called confession I was said to have made after the police grilled me continuously for eight hours one day and more than two hours the next day.

"I was starved during this time and threats were made against my life if I refused to admit the crime. I was afraid that the police would cause their threats to be carried out and did what the police asked me to do. I signed a piece of paper with some typewriting on it. Now they say I admitted the crime. I do not know what was on that paper. I did not commit the crime.

"I ask all the American people, white and Negro, to support the Congress on Civil Rights in its fight for justice so I, an innocent man, will not have to die for a crime I never committed." Sun 5-26-46

COURT RECORD

The court record of the Benton trial shows to my satisfaction Benton was tricked and threatened to sign the alleged confession.

"I advised him as far as I knew to advise him about his constitutional rights," testified Police Chief Gibson. "I might have got the constitution mixed up. I wasn't familiar with it."

Two witnesses testified at the trial Benton was far from the scene of the alleged rape at the time it was said to have been committed. He was at a "chittling" party in the home of friends.

The Benton case is part of a fresh Jimcrow offensive of reactionary white men in the south. It follows an attempt to lynch Robert Younger, Rockingham cook, near here last October.

Two weeks ago 30 carloads of white men rampaged through the Negro community spreading rumor a Negro had raped "another white woman." A young Negro to whom I had talked that afternoon had his hat shot off his head and was held in jail all night for the alleged rape.

The Benton case came at a time Negroes were crowding the polling places attempting to register as voters to exert their democratic rights. Sun. 5-26-46

While I was checking the jury lists in Richmond County Court House in Rockingham, six miles from Hamlet, I saw an official refuse to register six Negro men. They came to register to vote in the Democratic primary.

The fight, which is gaining strength here, for the freedom of Major Benton is an important part of the struggle against rotten Jimcrow and for full citizenship for all Negro people. If Benton goes to the gas chamber that struggle will have had suffered a setback. Jimcrow justice will have won again.

They have a primitive way of advertising their baseball games in Hamlet. They write the time and place of the games on the sidewalks with chalk. Sun. 5-26-4

I want to see the story of the Major Benton frameup written in the hearts of all honest American men and women. But it must be written with an indelible passion for justice and not in chalk that the rains can wash away.

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2 N.C. MEN EXECUTED FOR CRIMINAL ATTACK

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

RALEIGH, N.C.—Charlie Primus Jr., 24, and Wilbert Johnson, 23, were executed in the gas chamber here recently for having criminally attacked Miss Virginia Lipscomb on the night of July 19, 1945. Sat. 12-7-46

Lynch Mobs Roar Through Hamlet; 'Defense' Witness Insults Negroes

EXCLUSIVE

By Harry Raymond

Daily Worker

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Called by defense attorneys Edgar W. Jones and W. R. Jones, Dr. Owens proceeded to tell the court and jury the defendant, in his opinion, had a "mental development of nine years and one month." Benton had "no form of insanity whatsoever" and had "capacity to know right from wrong," he testified. New York, N. Y.

What Jones and Jones were trying to prove through this testimony about the defendant, a former high school student and man who met Army psychological requirements, was never made clear.

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By the Solicitor: You have also testified, have you not, that you have examined and given tests to a great many patients?

Dr. Owens: Yes, sir. 5-21-46

Q. And among them, I take it, there have been a large number of colored people; now will you state to the jury the average mental age of a colored person? (Objection).

By the Court: He may testify to that; I think it would be competent, if he has an opinion satisfactory to himself, according to his manner of testing people, what is the average mental attainment of the colored race that he has examined. (Objection). Tuesday

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For this insult on his people, Verge Pratt, 75-year-old grandfather of the condemned Negro, had to pay $100 out of his life-long savings to the psychiatrist.

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'No Error Made'

Court Rules 4 Must Die In N. C. Case

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 12-21-46

By A. M. RIVERA Jr.
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Lynch Mobs Roar Through Hamlet; 'Defense' Witness Insults Negroes

By Harry Raymond Daily Worker

EXCLUSIVE

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ton was tricked and threatened to sign the alleged confession.

"I advised him as far as I knew to advise him about his constitutional rights," testified Police Chief Gibson. "I might have got the constitution mixed up. I wasn't familiar with it."

Two witnesses testified at the trial Benton was far from the scene of the alleged rape at the time it was said to have been committed. He was at a "chittling" party in the home of friends.

The Benton case is part of a fresh Jimcrow offensive of reactionary white men in the south. It follows an attempt to lynch Robert Younger, Rockingham cook, near here last October.

Two weeks ago 30 carloads of white men rampaged through the Negro community spreading rumor a Negro had raped "another white woman." A young Negro to whom I had talked that afternoon had his hat shot off his head and was held in jail all night for the alleged rape.

The Benton case came at a time Negroes were crowding the polling places attempting to register as voters to exert their democratic rights. Sun. 5-26-46

While I was checking the jury lists in Richmond County Court House in Rockingham, six miles from Hamlet, I saw an official refuse to register six Negro men. They came to register to vote in the Democratic primary.

The fight, which is gaining strength here, for the freedom of Major Benton is an important part of the struggle against rotten Jimcrow and for full citizenship for all Negro people. If Benton goes to the gas chamber that struggle will have had suffered a setback. Jimcrow justice will have won again.

They have a primitive way of advertising their baseball games in Hamlet. They write the time and place of the games on the sidewalks with chalk. Sun. 5-26-46

I want to see the story of the Major Benton frameup written in the hearts of all honest American men and women. But it must be written with an indelible passion for justice and not in chalk that the rains can wash away.

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2 N.C. MEN EXECUTED FOR CRIMINAL ATTACK

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

34L

RALEIGH, N.C.—Charlie Primus Jr., 24, and Wilbert Johnson, 23, were executed in the gas chamber here recently for having criminally attacked Miss Virginia Lipscomb on the night of July 19, 1945. Sat. 12-7-46

Derelict Society Blamed

Guilt Debatable as Seventeen Await Death in North Carolina

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

(34f) Sat. 11-16-46

RALEIGH, N. C.—After a study of murder and ~~criminal attack cases~~ in which fourteen Negroes and three white men have been convicted and await execution, the question of guilt becomes debatable and a derelict society is blamed for conditions in the Tarheel State's court procedure, it was learned by The Courier this week.

Herman Matthews and Calvin Coolidge Williams, two Negroes not yet 20 years of age, who were scheduled to be executed in the Central Prison, Nov. 15 for murder were granted reprieves until Dec. 15 by Gov. R. Gregg Cherry.

Unless Governor Cherry intervenes, Charles Primus Jr., and Wilbert Johnson will forfeit their lives Nov. 22, as a result of a ruling of the State Supreme Court upholding their convicition of criminal attack at the July term of the Wake County Superior Court.

According to the record, Matthews and Williams were sentenced to die after their conviction in Sampson County Superior Court last April of shooting John Addison, another Negro. Testimony in the case indicated that Matthews, then 18, and Williams, then 17, lured Addison into a woods on the pretext of selling him whiskey, then shot and robbed him.

The record in the Primus-Johnson case shows that on the night of July 19, 1945, the pair held up John Guignard and Virginia Lipscomb as they were sitting in a parked car on a lonely road near Raleigh, N. C. Primus was convicted of "constructive force" in an attack on Miss Lipscomb while Johnson, the opinion held, aided and abetted since he provided the opportunity and extended the protection.

14 NEGROES, 3 WHITES ON DEATH ROW

An interview with Warden H. H. Wilson revealed that the personnel of the residents on "Death Row" is composed of fourteen Negroes and three whites and of this number seven Negroes are charged with criminal attacks.

Convicted last April under the "most extenuating circumstances" for the alleged rape of a white woman, are four Negro youths of Lumberton, N. C., Granger Thompson, Stacy Powell, Calvin Covington, and Clifton Inman.

SCOTTSBORO CARBON COPY

Testimony was given at the trial that the white woman, an alleged came to the Negro section, as she frequenter of houses of ill repute, had done many times before, seeking whiskey, and while in the company of Thompson, whom she knew, offered herself for sale to him and his companions. After the act was consummated some of the accused were short of money, and to get revenge she reported them as having raped her.

That the police brutally beat a confession of rape out of the condemned men was attested by their blood stained clothing and further substantiated by eye witnesses to the arrests who described the details as "a night of horror."

Attorney J. S. Bowser appealed the decision of the all white jury and has Attorney Herman L. Taylor, formerly of the legal staff of the national office of the NAACP, to aid in the defense before the Supreme Court hearing which is scheduled for Nov. 26.

A ruling of the prison administration against newspapermen and news photographers interviewing prisoners on Death Row prevented this writer from getting a first Attorney Taylor described them to hand picture of the men, but us as "pitiful."

ACCUSED ARE ILLITERATE

He said that two of them can neither read nor write and the others can read and write "just a little." This was a very interesting revelation in the light of the recent expose of the shocking conditions of the two Negro school units of Lumberton, neither of which are owned by the city.

Then there is the story of Major Benton, who was convicted last December of raping a woman near Hamlet, N. C. Benton a veteran of World War II, was convicted by an all white jury even though he denied all charges and the plantiff refused to identify him positively as her assailant.

As these men sit in the shadow of death the question of guilt becomes a debatable one with a derelict society on one hand demanding full payment of offenders on the other; with an utter disregard of its contribution to the delinquency of the accused.

New Trial Set for Negro Saved by 'Worker'

The Times New York, N.Y. (34f)

Special to the Daily Worker

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 2.—The State Supreme Court, in strongly-worded opinion, set aside the death sentence in the case of Major Benton, 26-year-old Hamlet, N. C., veteran, and ordered a new trial on the "rape" charge that railroaded him to death row.

Sentenced to die last May 31 in the gas chamber, Benton was granted a last-minute stay of execution and his case was appealed by attorneys of the Civil Rights Congress after the Daily Worker, on May 19, exclusively exposed his trial by an all-white jury in Richmond County Superior Court as a Jimcrow frame-up.

Tues. 12-3-46

The Benton trial and conviction on trumped-up charges of raping Mrs. Elizabeth Freeman, a white woman, was investigated on the spot by Daily Worker staff correspondent Harry Raymond. The grandfather of the doomed youth, a clergyman, and Raymond visited the prison on April 14 and emerged with a statement signed by the prisoner declaring his innocence.

EXCLUSIVE STORY

The Benton statement, along with a detailed account of the facts of the case, was published exclusively in the Daily Worker on May 20.

"The state built its whole case on a so-called confession I was said to have made after police grilled me continuously for eight hours one day and more than two hours the next day," the condemned Negro declared.

"I was starved during this time and threats were made against my life if I refused to admit the crime. I was afraid the police would cause their threats to be carried out and I did what the police asked me to do. I signed a piece of paper with some typewriting on it. Now they say I committed the crime. I do not know what was on the paper. I did not commit the crime."

Further injustices in the case were pointed out by North Carolina Chief Justice Walter Stacy. In writing the Supreme Court opinion, Judge Stacy said trial judge Don Phillips asked for a report from the jury on the morning after it had taken the case, and, when a report of no decision had been reached, urged a quick decision.

INFLUENCED JURY

Judge Phillips told the jurors at the time "evidence as testified to by the witnesses has been rather clear." Such a statement, stated Judge Stacy, "invites thought that it must have impressed the jury with the strength of the state's case and the weaknesses of the defendants, especially in view of the closing admonition."

"This misstatement to the jury," the opinion said, "if such it were, that defendant's counsel had asked them (the jurors) to return a verdict of 'guilty of assault with intent to commit rape,' rather than of rape, should have been called to the court's attention at the time.

"Ordinarily, standing alone, this would perhaps amount to no more than a harmless inadventence. In this case, however, it may have given color and tone to the court's charges, especially in light of the prior references to voluntariness of the confession. The defendant is entitled to another hearing, and a new trial is ordered." Tues. 12-3-46

N.C. High Court Gets Negro Vet's Appeal

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Special to the Daily Worker Fri. (34f) 11-22-46

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 21.—An appeal by the Civil Rights Congress to save the life of a young disabled Negro veteran of Hamlet, N. C., was heard here this week by the Supreme Court of North Carolina.

The veteran, Major Benton, 26-year-old former railroad worker, was convicted in Richmond County April 13 and sentenced to die in the gas chamber May 31. Filing of the appeal brought an automatic stay of execution. Benton is charged with rape of a white woman in Hamlet on Dec. 24, 1945.

"Benton was convicted solely on the testimony of police officers who claimed that he had confessed to them after a day and a half of continuous grilling," according to Laurent Frantz, southern field director of the Civil Rights Congress. "The so-called confession was completely repudiated by the defendant at the trial.

No other evidence whatsoever was offered to connect Benton with the crime. The victim of the alleged attack failed to identify Benton and was not even positive that the assailant was a Negro.

"Three reputable citizens swore that Benton was with them at the time the alleged crime was committed. The evidence against Benton was so weak that the all-white jury case at 5:30 on the afternoon of the 12th, was still hung seven to five at 10 o'clock the next morning, at which time the judge called them in and gave them a special charge urging them to break the deadlock.

"The United States Supreme Court has repeatedly held that forced confessions are a violation of the 14th Amendment to the Federal Constitution," Frantz stated, "and it has also said that where the suspect is browbeaten or intimidated, or the grilling cruelly prolonged, the confession is involuntary even though no physical torture was used. This is our contention in this case."

Benton was honorably discharged from the Army in 1943, due to the fact that one of his arms is permanently crippled from an injury received in service. He was receiving a partial disability pension.

The appeal was argued by W. R Jones of Rockingham, who represented Benton at the original trial and R. O. Everett of Durham, retained by the Civil Rights Congress.

7331

Philadelphia's Scottsboro: The Nick Williams Case

The Worker New York, N.Y.

Sun 4-28-46

34f

Pa.

PHILADELPHIA. — The United Peoples Action Committee has invited a number of civic leaders to speak at a Nick Williams mass meeting Tuesday evening, April 30, at the Wesley Church, 15th and Lombard Sts. Communist Party clubs are continuing to hold street meetings throughout the city demanding a new trial for Nick Williams.

Nick Williams is being framed up for the electric chair. The 22-year-old restaurant worker, who came here from South Carolina in 1942, was arrested for the first time in his life on Saturday, March 9. On March 13 he was indicted, tried and convicted, all within the space of three hours on 11 charges ranking from rape to assault with intent to kill. Judge Harry McDevitt called him "a filthy beast." He was given no chance to confront a lawyer or to summon witnesses. His alibi was not checked by police until after his conviction.

A mass campaign demanded a new trial for Williams, on the grounds that his constitutional rights had been violated. Then, on March 30, a murder charge was framed up against Williams.

The value of Williams' "confession," which he repudiated at his first trial, can be judged from the following fact: He had to be placed in the prison hospital, due to his nervous condition, and the way his testicles swelled after police treatment.

The Nick Williams frame-up is Philadelphia's Scottsboro case. It comes as Charles Hunt, a Negro war veteran, and other Negroes are being beaten up by the police in a campaign of terror and intimidation against the Negro people. Only a mass protest movement of labor, ALL the Negro people, and progressives, can stop it and save Williams from the electric chair.

Teen-Age Killer Gets Life Term On Guilty Plea

PM New York, N.Y.

Fri 10-4-46

By James T. Howard

34f

Aaron Shelton, Jr., 15, first juvenile ever to be tried for murder in Bucks County, Pa., was sentenced to life imprisonment when he interrupted his trial at Doylestown, Pa., on the fourth day to throw himself on the mercy of the court, pleading guilty of the rape slaying of Mrs. Gladys Shetland, of Langhorne.

Judge Calvin Boyer excused the jury and heard the remainder of the State's case, including Shelton's repudiated confession that he clubbed Mrs. Langhorne unconscious, bound her with cord, raped her and set fire to the house.

"The most vicious and brutal crime in the history of Bucks County," said Judge Boyer, adding a recommendation that future authorities refuse to consider any plea for commutation of the life term that may be made.

7332

Gatlin to Die Today, Final Plea Rejected

News and Courier

Charleston S.C.

Louis Gatlin, 26-year-old Biloxi, Miss., negro, convicted of raping a white woman in Charleston county in June, 1945, was scheduled for death in the electric chair at 7 o'clock this morning after a second eleventh hour appeal to Governor Ransome J. Williams failed late yesterday.

Friday

The governor granted a 30-day reprieve June 19 when Gatlin's Mississippi attorneys told the governor they had "new evidence".

34f

Late yesterday, the same attorneys made a last-minute appeal by telephone to the governor's office, The News and Courier was informed by William G. McGarity, Jr., secretary for the governor, on the allegation that the attorneys had uncovered other "new evidence" which they "felt sure" would have bearing on Gatlin's case.

McGarity conferred by telephone with Governor Williams, in Greenwood, and the latter ordered the execution held as scheduled. When the original reprieve was granted, Mr. McGarity said, the prisoner's attorneys were given a 30-day period in which to submit the "new evidence" to the governor. The Mississippi attorneys, teamed with one South Carolina attorney whom the governor's secretary could not name, last week personally presented the governor with material in connection with the case.

7-19-46

When Gatlin's execution was stayed June 19, Solicitor Robert McC. Figg, Jr., the prosecutor, was not informed of the reprieve except through newspaper accounts. He never was informed of the nature of the "new evidence".

7333

ALL-WHITE JURY EXONERATES WHITE POLICEMEN FOR RAPING NEGRO WOMEN

MEMPHIS — (ANP) — Two former white police officers were exonerated here Friday by an all-white jury for raping two young colored women.

The three-day trial, conducted in the traditional jim-crow setting of the south where spectators were seated according to color, drew a capacity crowd to Judge Kinkle's courtroom to hear J. W. Torrey, 27, and R. J. Lewis, 26, the two accused patrolmen who resigned from the police department when a probe was launched on the rape charges, merely denied taking the two women, both employes of Fred's cafe here, to a woods on Aug. 3 and forcing them into immoral relations.

The defense of the two policemen was "nothing more than blanket denial and most fanciful alibi," said Asst. Atty Gen. Charles Bond. After Atty A. E. Weinstein, defense lawyer, had resorted to play upon sectional race prejudice by pointing to the Negro section of the court to denounce the NAACP for pushing the case, Atty. General Will Gerber informed the jury that "this is a serious lawsuit, with two men on trial who were entrusted to protect the public, to protect the property of every individual of the community and to protect every individual in the community—white or black.

"White men started this investigation. White men completed this investigation. White men indicted these two defendants.

"It is for you 12 white men to determine whether white men believe in enforcement of law regardless of who commits an offense—be they white or be they black." 2-16-46

Fred Dudzick, the employer of the girls, described by Atty. Gen. Gerber as "a white man, an honorable white man," took them to the police station and reported the crime.

Characterizing the verdict as "the greatest miscarriage of justice here," threats have been made to take the case to a higher court.

Man Sentenced To Die For Assault

An all-white jury returned a verdict of guilty against Early Bryant, in the Fulton County Superior Court on a charge of criminal assault, and he was sentenced to die in the electric chair on Friday, April 26.

He was charged with having criminally attacked a white woman on Roswell Road on Jan. 5, at which time she was returning home from a grocery store.

Bryant took the witness stand and admitted that he grabbed the woman, but claimed that he released her when she screamed.

Judge Edgar E. Pomeroy presided over the trial, and Solicitor E. E. Andrews and his assistant, Paul Webb represented the state.

James C. Johnson, of East Point was found guilty of criminally assaulting a 11 year old colored girl Tuesday, in Superior Court, Judge Virlyn B. Moorfe, presiding. The all-white jury fixed his punishment at not less than one and not more than two years.

Tenn.

Ex-Cops Freed of Attack Charge

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

MEMPHIS (ANP) — Two former policemen, white, were exonerated here last week in charges of criminally assaulting two young colored women by an all-white jury in the three-day trial, conducted in the traditional jim-crow setting.

The case drew a capacity crowd to Judge Kinkle's courtroom to hear J. W. Torrey, 27, and B. J. Lewis, 26, the two former patrolmen, deny having any part in the alleged crime.

Taken Into the Woods

According to the two women's charge, they were taken into the woods by the former patrolmen and forced into immoral relations.

Fred Dudzick, white employer of the two women, took them to the police station and reported the crime. The verdict has been described as "the greatest miscarriage of justice," and plaintiffs threaten to take the case to a higher court.

Sentence White Man 10 Yrs. For Attempted Rape

Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.
Sat 4-6-46

By O. B. Taylor

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Knoxville, Tenn., April 3.—A white man was sentenced to 10 years at hard labor here last week for attempting to rape an attractive Negro co-ed on Dec. 21.

After hearing the background of the incident, a jury in Judge J. Fred Bibb's court deliberated only 10 minutes to return a guilty verdict against 19-year-old Kenneth Hackney, married and the father of a 20-day-old baby. Hackney accosted Miss Evelyn McElroy, a Knoxville College junior, as she was enroute home on Dedrick Avenue from a neighborhood drug store and asked her if she wanted to make $5 easily.

"I paid him no attention and kept walking," she told the court, "but he came up behind me, placed one arm around me and a hand over my mouth. He forced me into an alley."

Two young white women, who happened to be coming down the street, corroborated her story. They saw the tussle, screamed frantically for help, and attracted the attention of Jesse Seals, a school teacher, who lives nearby. Hackney freed Miss Elroy and fled when one of the white women yelled:

"Here comes a man with a pistol. He will break it up."

Officers were on the scene in five minutes after Prof. Seals called. Hackney's identity was supplied by Miss Helen McMillan, an employe of the Standard Knitting Mills. He was arrested, placed on $10,000 bond, and was compelled to languish behind prison bars when he defauted his bond.

"I shall see this thing through," remarked Miss McMillan. "It matters nothing to me whether this girl is white or colored."

An attempt by Hackney's lawyer to castigate Miss McElroy by referring to her as "that gal" was blocked by Judge Bibb. "Refer to her as that lady or that girl," the judge said. "The dignity of my court is going to be respected and upheld by all, including you."

Hackney's lawyer will appeal the case, he said.

Man Gets Life Sentence For Assaulting Girl, 10

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Clarksville, Tenn., Dec. 5.—Mayo Hugh Lawson was convicted here today of criminal assault on a 10-year-old white girl and sentenced to life imprisonment. Defense Counsel Yancey Caldwell, Paris, Tenn., filed a motion for a new trial. Lawson pleaded partial insanity and claimed he did not recall the crime which occurred September 22. Fri. 12-6-46

Two White Cops Freed By White Jury In Memphis Attack Case

Chicago Defender

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Memphis this week sounded its reveille for rapists.

Freed by a criminal court jury were two ex-city policemen charged with raping two Negro girls. Sat. 2-2-46

The Tobacco Road type case which attracted national attention roared to an end with relatives of the defendants weeping with joy; the defendants' lawyer fainting with worry and the judge lashing at Negro spectators for laughing at the testimony.

Indicted by the grand jury, R. J. Lewis, 26, and J. W. Torrey, 27, had been charged with forcing two Negro girls into their squad car on Aug. 3, 1945, and raping them in a wooded section between Poplar and Union Extended.

Alibi of the cops was that they were somewhere else at the time.

During the hot court session, prosecutor Gen. Will Gerber begged the jury not to consider the color question when arriving at a verdict.

Gerber pointed out that the rape case was really an all-white affair.

Chicago, Ill.

He said that two white men had been accused of assaulting two Negro women; that it was a white man (the girls' employer) who reported the matter to the police; white policemen investigated the case; a white grand jury indicted the men; white police officials testified against them; a white prosecutor directed the case; a white judge heard it and the decision was in the hands of a white jury.

When he finished the jury took 55 minutes to bring back a verdict in favor of the white defendants. Sat. 2-2-46

Highlight of the case, which saw a white waitress, Mary Mocobee, arrested when she was overheard sympathizing with the Negroes, came when Atty Ed Weinstein caused a 35-minute delay in the decision. He fainted and had to be revived by a physician.

Earlier Weinstein had turned to the Jim Crow section of the court and shouted when he heard Negroes sneering and laughing at the testimony: "They have no right laughing."

In the midst of his argument he made reference to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People which had employed a Memphis attorney to investigate the case.

When the defense attorney finished, Judge Kinkle lashed at one Negro social worker and stated:

"I've been watching you throughout the trial and have seen you laugh and sneer at some parts of the testimony. If there are any further demonstrations, the spectators responsible will be forcibly ejected and possibly fined for contempt." Sat. 2-2-46

The state had charged the two police officers with picking up the Negro girls, one 20 and the other 17, at Poplar and Cleveland shortly after 1:30 a.m., on Aug. 3.

After inquiring about their health cards, the state contended the men drove the girls to a wooded section where Torrey assaulted the 20-year-old woman and Lewis forced her companion into "an unnatural act."

Torrey and Lewis took the witness stand and presented an alibi to cover their movements which was supported by witnesses.

Defense attorneys Weinstein and Harry Scruggs stressed testimony which cast doubt on the girls' certainty of the identification of the two officers and doubt as to which squad car the men were assigned to on the morning of the assault.

Torrey and Lewis explained their sudden resignation from the police force by saying they did it to save their families' "embarrassment." Sat 2-2-46

When the hectic trial ended they issued statements saying: "We have maintained our innocence from the start . . . The jury only affirmed our sincere contention that we were innocent."

7334

NATIONAL ROUNDUP

Convict Boy, 17 Of Rape Of Girl Who Loves Him

3-9-46

Chicago Defender, Ill.

GAINESVILLE, Tex.—A 17-year-old Negro boy was this week convicted of rape of a young white girl who professed her love for him on the witness stand.

Despite the girl's pleas that her Negro lover be freed, the jury recommended that Clifton Leonard McFadden be sentenced to 60 years in the penitentiary.

Several letters from the girl in which she expressed her love for McFadden were introduced as evidence.

Sat.

34K

The case was transferred from the 15th District Court at Sherman, Texas, where the couple lived.

Tex. Youth, 17, Given 60 Years for Assault Despite Testimony

Afro American

3-30-46

Baltimore Md.

GAINESVILLE, Tex.—(ANP)—Notwithstanding the fact that a young white girl testified here that she was in love with the defendant and that he was not guilty of criminally assaulting her, Clifton L. McFadden, 17, was given a 60-year sentence.

34F

Introduced as evidence were letters written to McFadden by the girl expressing love for him, supported by her appearance on the stand to confirm this.

Sentenced to 35 Years On Rape Conviction

The Call

Kansas City, Mo.

FORT WORTH, Texas. — Edward S. Wells, 25, accused of raping Mrs. Louise B. Coker, a WAC, on the night of Feb. 23 was assessed a sentence of 35 years in the state penitentiary Saturday as the climax of a three-day trial. The jury deliberated four hours and 40 minutes.

34F

Wells testified that he had been intimate with the WAC at her request.

Fri. 11-8-46

So far as it is known, this was the first time that a Negro, in Texas, convicted of rape of a white woman, had received a sentence of anything other than death or life.

Seamstress' Attacker Sentenced

The Informer

Sat 6-8-46

Houston, Texas

HOUSTON — The trial of Hilliard Hawkins, indicted by the grand jury for the alleged attacking and criminal assaulting of Miss Ann Mae Henry, a successful local seamstress, ended Tuesday, June 4, after two days of hearing. Hawkins was found guilty, and sentenced to serve five years in the state penitentiary.

34F

Hawkins, a World War II veteran of 2200 Lockwood drive, was convicted for entering Miss Henry's home, located at 1811 Lockwood drive, May 2, and then choking and beating her in the face and head, until she was almost unconscious. Afterwards he threw her on the bed and criminally assaulted her.

Houston, Texas

Hawkins pleaded not guilty, testifying that he was at his home with his parents on the night of May 2.

7335

Free White Soldier Of Rape Attempt

The Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va.

By ELAINE HUBBARD

HAMPTON — An all-white jury in Elizabeth City County Circuit Court deliberated only fifteen minutes on Dec. 21 before returning a verdict which freed Joseph Rizzo, 28-year-old white soldier stationed at Fort Monroe, of a charge of attempting to rape a 26-year-old colored waitress on the early morning of Oct. 3 last. 1-5-46

In returning their not guilty verdict the veniremen discounted a fervent plea by Acting Commonwealth's Attorney H. Clark Thompson that a colored woman is "just as much entitled to protection under the law as a woman of any other race, creed, or nationality."

34f Va.

The jurors retired at 3:25 p. m. and returned with their verdict at 3:40. In addition to a large number of both colored and white citizens who heard the evidence, seven white enlisted men and several officers representing military authorities from the Fort Monroe Coast Artillery School, were present.

Rizzo was the center of a legal battle after the alleged crime was committed as civil authorities of Elizabeth City County sought his custody for prosecution, while military authorities at Fort Monroe tried unsuccessfully to keep him in custody.

The accused soldier was not released until county authorities, led by Acting Commonwealth's Attorney Thompson, had referred the matter to Governor Colgate W. Darden Jr., and the aid of President Truman, Congressman S. Otis Bland, of the First Congressional District of Virginia, and the Secretary of War, had been invoked. 1-5-46

HELD FOR FULL MONTH

Rizzo, who was detained by Fort Monroe authorites for a full month before Elizabeth City County was able to get them to agree to his release, was accused of grabbing the woman at the corner of Armstrong and West County streets in Phoebus on the early morning of Oct. 3, and attempting to assault her.

A woman companion of the complaining witness ran for help, according to investigating officers, and two colored man came to her aid and inflicted a severe beating upon Rizzo. Military police arrived and since, the soldier was injured, he was turned over to them for hospital treatment. Later, however, county authorities charged, the military refused to release Rizzo for trial in a civil court.

Emphasis was placed by the defense at Rizzo's trial on the fact that he had a good military record, and the fact that it was a colored woman who was testifying against him. It was brought out that the accused soldier is a native of Albany, N. Y., and had been in the Army for three years.

The defense also sought to show that the area in which the alleged attack occurred is well lighted, although in fact, it is very dimly lighted, there being a street light on the corner of Popular avenue and another at the corner of Armstrong street, with the intervening space almost dark.

The evidence revealed further that the victim of the alleged attack struck Rizzo, with her pocketbook; that Rizzo weighs 170 pounds, as against 98 pounds for the victim of the rape attempt.

In addition, it was revealed that Rizzo had both eyes blackened and sustained a superficial forehead wound, in addition to other minor injuries in the fight with the two men who came to the woman's aid.

Her injuries, according to the testimony of Dr. R. A. B. Lloyd who examined her after the alleged attack attempt, consisted of fingernail scratches on the face, and bruises on the left leg.

Two Sentenced For Assault

Times-Dispatch

Richmond, Va.

DANVILLE, Feb. 26—Police Magistrate Calvin Berry today imposed severe penalties on Negroes charged with assaulting white women in two cases before him he fined two Negro men $1,660 with jail terms totaling two years and a half. 2-27-46

34f Va.

James R. Sampson, charged with pushing two white women off the North Union Street sidewalk last night, was given 18 months on the city farm and fines totalling $1,100 on four charges, and Robert Henry Fallen, a diminutive Negro, charged with attacking two white women, a nurse and a textile worker on their way to work at night, was fined $550 and given 12 months on the city farm.

Fallen got another six months and another fine of $50 for attacking a police officer, and was held for the grand jury in connection with an attack on one of the women.

Man Is Sentenced On Charge of Rape

Times-Dispatch

NEWPORT NEWS, Jan. 29—(AP)—Barum Fleetwood Flythe, 22, former serviceman and taxi driver, was found guilty in Corporation Court here today on a charge of statutory rape of an 11-year-old girl. 1-30-46

34f Va.

He was sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary by Judge Herbert G. Smith.

Youth Dies Two Weeks After Entering Prison

Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va.

HAMPTON, Va. — Clinton S. Johnson, 17-years of age, who began serving a 20-year sentence in the state penitentiary, Richmond, about two weeks ago, for rape, died there Sunday after a short illness.

34f

Major W. Frank Smyth Jr., superintendent of the penitentiary, said attendants of the hospital there advised him that the youth died of acute epilepsy. In 1943, he was accused by a 20-year-old white girl of raping her after forcing her at the point of a pistol into a shack near his home. Sat 3-16-46

When tried in the Elizabeth City county circuit court under the late Judge John Weymouth, Johnson was found guilty. But after Judge Weymouth's death, Judge Jefferson F. Walker of the Eastern Shore of Virginia too over the case and imposed the sentence.

The youth's attorney appealed to the Supreme Court of Appeals and secured a writ of error on grounds that it was illegal for one judge to try Johnson and another to sentence him. Later the Supreme Court voided the appeal.

Johnson was returned to jail, but was released during the Christmas holidays, and subsequently sent to the state penitentiary to serve the 20-year term.

Survivors are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Johnson; two sisters, Miss Margaret Johnson of Richmond and Miss Helen Johnson of Cleveland, Ohio.

Funeral arrangements were not completed Monday.

Soldier Convicted Of Rape Charge

Richmond, Va.

Times-Dispatch

Fred Ware, a 19-year-old Negro soldier of the 1000 block North Bowe St., was convicted in Hustings Court yesterday of a statutory rape charge and imposition of sentence was suspended. He was convicted of having attacked a 14-year-old Negro

34f Va.

Man Is Sentenced On Rape Charge

Richmond, Va.

Times-Dispatch

COVINGTON, May 1—Charles L. Booth, 36, was found guilty yesterday on a charge of statutory rape, and was sentenced to five years in the State Penitentiary by Judge Earl Abbott in Alleghany County Circuit Court.

34f Va.

Booth will appeal the decision, according to his attorneys.

The trial was heard by Judge Abbott without a jury. The alleged offense is said to have been committed against a 13-year-old girl east of Clifton Forge last December. Thurs. 5-2-46

Man Gets Three Years On Girl's Accusation

Washington, D.C. Post

Staunton, Va., April 25 (AP).—On a plea of guilty to statutory rape, without force, George H. Sensabaugh, 20, World War II veteran, was sentenced yesterday in corporation court by Judge J. Harry May to three years in the State penitentiary. Fri. 4-26-46

34f

The veteran, who was wounded in Germany, admitted having intimate relations with a girl under the age of consent, but claimed that force was not used. This, together with his war record and his first appearance in court, lessened his sentence, Judge May declared.

Man Is Given 12-Year Term In Rape Case

Times-Dispatch

Richmond, Va.

Three Sentences Progressively Heavy

Fri. 11-8-46

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Nov. 7—(AP)—Dan Townsend, Jr., 24-year-old railroad fireman, was found guilty late today under a joint indictment charging him with raping a 21-year-old Greene County girl and with aiding and abetting five other companions in alleged attacks upon the girl. Punishment was fixed at 12 years in the penitentiary.

34f Va.

Defense Attorney J. Tinsley Coleman promptly entered a motion for an arrest of judgment on the ground that the jury members did not specify upon which of the six counts in the indictment they based their opinions.

Coleman also entered a motion to set aside the verdict as contrary to the law and evidence on the contention that the jury had been misdirected by the court.

Judge Lemuel F. Smith will hear arguments on the two motions next Tuesday in Albemarle Circuit Court.

Townsend's parents and friends were unable to post bond of $12,500 for his release pending the outcome of the arguments of the motions, and he was remanded to the Albemarle County jail.

Townsend and his companions are charged with offenses against the girl the night of July 29 on a roadside near Charlottesville. A former soldier, he is the third of six men to be tried on charges of attacking the girl.

Samuel Herbert Brown, 19, was given a five-year sentence last month, and Charles R. Dove, Jr., received a sentence of 10 years. Separate juries were asked for each of the six cases.

Inconsistent Justice

Times-Dispatch

THE advocacy of jurists and criminologists of a change in Virginia court practice to give judges the responsibility for sentencing defendants in jury trials appears to have strong inferential support in the outcome of two criminal trials which have just been concluded in Albemarle County Circuit Court.

34f

The cases were those of two 19-year-old youths, who, along with three others, were accused of raping a 21-year-old girl on a roadside in the county in July. SAMUEL HERBERT BROWN, who was named by the girl as her first attacker, was tried first, found guilty, and sentenced by the jury to five years in prison. Two days later a jury heard the case against CHARLES R. DOVE, JR., second of the accused rapists, and awarded him a sentence of 10 years in prison.

In other words, the girl's first attacker was sentenced to a prison term one-half as long as one of the subsequent attackers received. Richmond, Va.

Under Virginia law, JUDGE LEMUEL F. SMITH, who entered the orders putting the two sentences into effect, had no alternative, unless he saw cause to set aside either of the verdicts entirely. Nothing in the Associated Press accounts from Charlottesville explains the discrepancy in sentences, and one can only assume that here is another instance of the variability of juries in determining the extent of guilt and its appropriate punishment. Fri. 10-25-46

Trial by jury is a cherished feature of Anglo-Saxon justice, but there has long been reason to feel that the responsibility of the jury should be limited to the determination of guilt, and that the judge should be empowered to sentence the defendant in accordance with the jury's findings. This would assure more uniformity of treatment of those who are brought to the bar, which is decidedly in the interest of justice. Such is the practice in our Federal courts, and it has been advocated by many leaders of the Virginia bar for adoption in the State courts.

The remarkable inconsistency in the findings of the jury in Albemarle suggests the need for this reform, as well as for some adjustment of the two sentences in question to render them more consistent and more understandable.

RC

Fi 34K

Scottsboro: when the world rallie fight for Negro rig

The Worker [illegible]

By JOSEPH NORTH
Editor of New Masses

EVERY so often, history forces upon man's consciousness a name, an obscure individual, a chance—yet typical—episode, that awakens the conscience of mankind. One man's tragedy can, under certain circumstances, illuminate that of a class, a nation, a people. The Dreyfuss case, for instance, evoked the passionate protest of Zola's J'Accuse, and millions in all lands, defended the [illegible] of an obscure Jewish captain in the French army. The Mendel Beilis case told the world how the Jew fared in Czarist Russia. Tom Mooney's death sentence in 1917 set thousands of Russian workers marching before the American Embassy insisting that "Tom Muni" be freed, and forced the American Ambassador himself to cable a frantic query to Washington for information on "Tom Muni."

34K

History has given us no small number of such instances. I want to tell of one, undoubtedly the greatest of all, since it swept millions on all continents into motion. It is the story of nine Negro boys, who went out one morning to seek work—15 years ago. Boys of Alabama.

I want to recall the Scottsboro case—for itself since it is unfinished, three of the original nine defendants are still in prison) and for another reason. The times demand that we recall what happened to these nine Negro boys and what they came to mean to the world. This is a time to tell of it: Freeport demands it; Columbia, Tenn., demands it. The lessons of Scottsboro have much to teach us today.

Sun 4-7-46

Protest Flashed
Across Country

I was working in the International Labor Defense the evening of March 26, 1931, when word came from Alabama that an armed sheriff's posse had just taken nine Negro boys off a freight train at Paint Rock, Ala. The Negro boys were charged with attacking two white girls hoboing on the same train. The pattern was notoriously familiar: the Negro boys (they were little more than children, the youngest 14, the oldest 17) were charged with rape. The ILD sent a protest wire to Alabama's Governor, who indignantly called in the newspapermen, and that ILD protest flashed across the country. That brought the Scottsboro case to the world's attention.

This week, on April 6, commemorates the first of a long, bitterly-fought series of lynch trials that opened in Scottsboro. Outside the courtroom a drunken crowd sang, "There'll be a hot time in the old town tonight." "Guilty," the jury said. The penalty: death. The jury disagreed only on the youngest—the 14-year-old.

(Consider the time. Breadlines wound around America. The corrugated tin shack of Hooverville had become the pattern of our nation's new architecture. But out of this misery something great stirred. Only a few days before, millions of Americans were roused from despair by news that 110,000 New Yorkers in Union Square had refused to take starvation as a way of life. Nationwide the people began to march. That spirit operated upon news of the Scottsboro case. These nine Negro children—some of the most oppressed in the land—had hopped a freight train to search for work.)

Communists
Join Struggle

The ILD immediately undertook the defense: its efforts found prompt support from many thousands of progressives and working-class organizations, and particularly from the Communist Party. Communists here, and throughout the world, labored tirelessly on behalf of the Scottsboro boys. What they did is history.

Within a month thousands marched in Harlem in the first Scottsboro Protest Parade: I remember that well. That set in motion thousands of similar manifestations of America's awakening militancy. By June 8, demonstrations spread across America, across the seas. On that day more than 150,000 marched before U. S. consulates in Berlin, Hamburg, Dresden.

I remember well the clamor that arose: the hysterical red-baiting by the Bourbons and Klan-minded. I remember too the counsel of the timid, the cowed. "Don't demonstrate," they said, "no mass pressure—leave it to the courts." Had that advice been heeded, they boys would have been straight away done to death. But the ILD and the Communist Party rejected the straitjacket of legalism. They unyieldingly exposed the class nature of America's "justice," mobilized the millions while they fought the case in the courts, and the boys did **not** die.

Space does not permit the full chronicle of events in this case. One can, in this space, only summarize in brief: the attorneys retained by the ILD riddled the case of the prosecution. With the eyes of America on Alabama they won a stay of execution from the Alabama Supreme Court. This gained the defense priceless time.

Later, in 1932, the United States Supreme Court reversed the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court and ordered new trials. The highest court in the land found that the constitutional rights of the boys had been violated: court appointed counsel had supplied inadequate defense.

Two years later, March 27, 1933, after continual legal skirmishes and consistent mass actions, another crucial trial occurred—that of Haywood Patterson, again on trial for his life. The three lawyers retained by the ILD—Samuel A. Leibowitz, now the Brooklyn judge, Joseph R. Brodsky, and George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, defended the young Negro while lynch mobs prowled outside, threatening them, the defense witnesses and the defendants. At this trial Ruby Bates, one of the two girls who originally charged rape, testified that she had lied at the original trial. Sun. 4-7-46

Nonetheless, the all-white jury brought a verdict of guilty and death. Motion for retrial was entered on June 22. Judge James E. Horton said, in his lengthy opinion, that **"evidence preponderates greatly in favor of the defendants."** A new trial was granted.

Later that year Haywood Paterson went on trial the third time, on this occasion before a notorious Klansman, Judge W. W. Callahan. The defense showed that names of Negro talesmen had been forged into the jury books (Negro defendants had been systematically excluded, as the defense attorneys proved). Again the verdict was "guilty"; again the sentence was "death."

Victory
On Vital Issue

Then came an epochal development: the case was carried before the United States Supreme Court a second time. The court, on April 1, 1935, granted an appeal on the grounds that the boys were deprived of their constitutional rights by systematic exclusion of Negroes from panels of grand and petit juries which had indicted and tried them.

The following year, in January, Haywood Patterson stood trial for his life the fourth time: Judge Callahan again presiding. The verdict: guilty. The sentence, 75 years in the penitentiary.

But this time all other trials were abruptly postponed.

So the case went, fought furiously through the years. On July 24, 1937, the rape charge against four of the boys, Roy Wright, Eugene Williams, Olen Montgomery, Willie Roberson and Ozie Powell was dropped. But Ozie Powell was sentenced to 20 years on an assault charge.

In June of 1938 the Governor commuted the death sentence of another boy, Clarence Norris, to life imprisonment. Finally, six of the boys were freed. Three remain in prison to this day, the Governor persistently rejecting pardon applications. The Scottsboro Defense Committee charged Gov. Bibb Graves with failure to observe his "given word of honor to free the remaining Scottsboro boys." And that is where the case rests today.

I would like to summarize what appears to me the significance of the Scottsboro campaign. First, the campaign to free the boys highlighted to America and the world that Negroes in this country are denied their constitutional rights. It focussed attention upon the social, political and economic plight of this great sector of our people, and revealed, as in a lightning flash, the semi-colonial status of America's Negro population. And in the struggle around the Scottsboro case, the Negro people advanced in unity and militancy: and the imperative unity of Negro and white grew during the Scottsboro struggle.

Second: This case revealed that it is folly to depend on the courts for "justice" where the interests of the dominating class in American life are concerned.

Third: This case proved that only through organized, systematic mobilization of public opinion can the rights of the people—to a degree—be wrested. That degree is contingent upon the scope and power of public pressure that is evoked.

Fourth: That pressure, in this case, resulted in historic gains for the Negro people. The Supreme Court decision of April 1, 1935, brought lasting benefits. It proved that the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution were flouted when Negroes were barred from sitting on juries. The fight that brought the Supreme Court verdict has resulted in the right of Negroes to sit on juries in many places in the South today. Sun. 4-7-46

Unyielding
Ally of Negro People

Fifth: This case focussed national attention upon the fact that the Communist Party is the most consistent unyielding ally of the Negro people. Its bold and persistent part in the defense campaign led by the ILD was duly noted, and never forgotten, by the masses of the Negro people and white democrats.

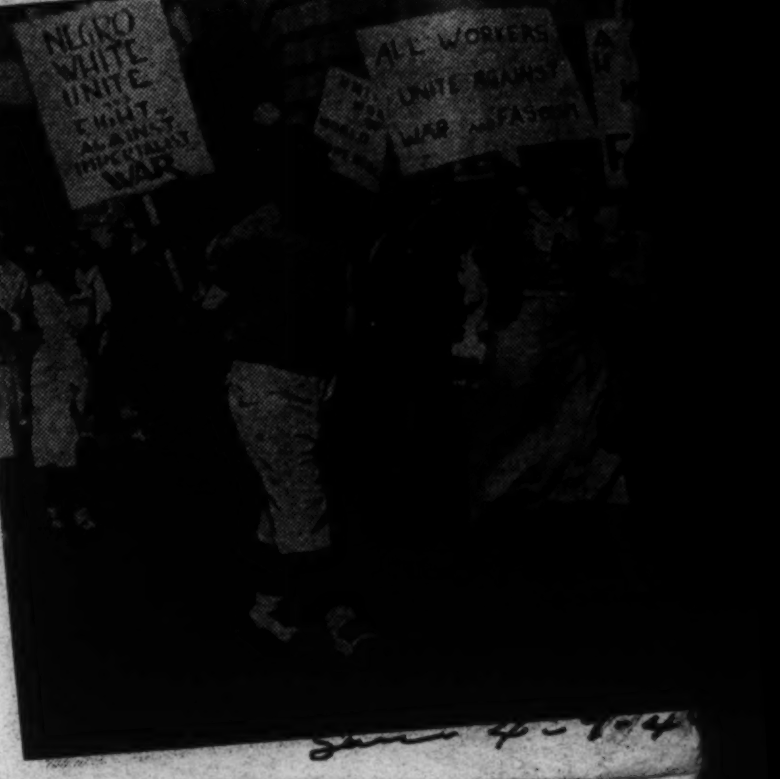
Sixth: The lessons of this case must be invoked to bring the Freeport criminals to justice, and to free the men indicted in the Columbia, Tenn., cases. These lessons can be applied today with even greater force and chance of success for a variety of reasons; since 1931 the working class is immeasurably strengthened; there is the CIO. The Negro people have reached a higher degree of unity and consciousness of power, and the degree of unity between white and Negro is much higher today than ever.

• • •

True, the Scottsboro, the Freeports, the Columbias, will lurk, ready to explode, so long as America remains a capitalist, an imperialist nation. Monopoly capital will continuously seek to sow division through Jimcrow and class justice. But the means to fight back are greater today: experience throughout the years has sharpened the weapons. We must use them to win a greater degree of freedom and equality than ever before. Sun. 4-7-46

Yes, the means are here and history demands the strugle. Though the night-riders of reaction are galloping hard again, in the coalition of southern bourbon and northern monopoly capitalist, the hosts of democracy are more powerful than ever in history. **The people must take the offensive.** These are a few of the lessons the Scottsboro case affords us.

All this is wrapped up in the lives of the nine obscure, poverty-stricken boys of Scottsboro.


NEGRO WHITE UNITE FIGHT AGAINST IMPERIALIST WAR
ALL WORKERS UNITE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM

Sun 4-7-4

SCOTTSBORO DEMONSTRATIONS—A parade
White House.

Amazon Hunters' Poison

By PETER STONE

UP the Orinoco River in the Amazon jungles of Ecuador the South American Indians refer to a brew prepared by their local medicine men as "flying death."

During tribal ceremonials they watch him strip certain plant stems, chant his magic words and then cook his concoction. The warriors then dip their arrow-heads into the mixture and prepare for the hunt.

From long experience they know that their dipped arrow-heads are powerful weapons against the animals of the forest. They have watched their arrows inflict only slight wounds on small animals—and then seen them fall quickly and die within a few moments. They also know that the flesh of these animals has not been poisoned by the brew—and that they will have game for their meal that is good to eat.

The concoction, known as curare, is now being used in many clinics for all patients who must undergo electric shock treatment. Recently a combination of curare and nitrous oxide (laughing gas commonly used in tooth extractions) enabled surgeons to use an electric knife in chest operations. It is explained that laughing gas puts the patient to sleep and curare paralyzes the breathing muscles, which must not be active during chest surgery.

The electric knife has a great advantage over the scalpel in chest operations because, as it cuts through the flesh, it also seals off many of the smaller veins and arteries which it had severed. This prevents excessive bleeding.

Other drugs like ether and cyclopropane have also been used successfully as anesthetics during chest surgery. However, both are explosive, and the tiny sparks from the electric knife may cause an explosion in the lungs of a patient. Both nitrous oxide and curare are not explosive and eliminate some complications.

Curare has been known to medical science since 1595, when it was mentioned in a description of Sir Walter Raleigh's expedition up the Orinoco River. Experiments with crude forms

Scien

Note

The Black-Dispatch

Oklahoma City, Okla. Sat. 9-28-46

WHITE WOMAN ACCUSING FOUR NEGROES OF RAPE FAILS TO APPEAR IN COURT WEDNESDAY

File

County Attorney Says Prosecuting Witness Has Left State and Asks Dismissal

134R

SORDID TESTIMONY IN JUNE CONFUSING

Okla.

First degree rape charges against four Negroes were dismissed Wednesday morning in the courtroom of Judge Lucius Babcock, at the request of County Attorney Warren Edwards, and came as an utter surprise to attorneys for the four defendants. The prosecuting witness was not in court to defend the serious charges brought against the four youths.

The four men freed were Joe Rucker, Ernest Morris, James Starr and Preston Hall. Clarence Johnson, another defendant, was released from the same charge in the latter part of July. 9-28-46

In the information filed on the morning of June 20, the defendants were charged with having committed the crime of rape upon the person of Irene Payne, a white woman. The preliminary hearing was held in the justice court of Paul Powers on West Main street, at which time the Payne woman appeared with her husband, Virgil Payne, and testified regarding the alleged assault. Clint Miers, deputy sheriff who made the arrests, also testified.

When the case was callled Wednesday, Judge Babcock asked the county attorney if he was ready for trial, as W. A. Carlisle, assist-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2, COL. 1)

NEWS CLIPPINGS FILE
KEGEE INSTITUTE ARCHIVES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

ant, told the court sometime ago the complaining witness had left the state and had written a post card stating where she could be located. He said in ample time prior to Wednesday he had forwarded a letter to Mrs. Payne telling her of the trial date, but had failed to hear from either one of the witnesses.

The Black-Dispatch

"Well, what do you want to do about it?" queried Judge Babcock.

"Dismiss it," said Warren Edwards, county attorney, as he arose in the courtroom. Judge Babcock thereupon entered an order dismissing the charges and the defendants were released from custody.

This case created a stir in the community last June when newspaper headlines announced five Negroes were accused of raping a white woman, but when the preliminary was heard in Judge Power's courtroom there was much to throw doubt upon the guilt of the defendants.

Tetsimony showed that Irene Payne and her husband had gone to a Negro eating place, known as Doc Williams' Barbecue Stand, in the western part of the city late at night June 19, and that prior to the alleged assault she had engaged in a fight with another white woman in the Negro eating place.

Oklahoma City, Okla.

The witness testified that she was 29 years old, had lived in Oklahoma City 14 years and was the mother of three children. The testimony showed that she and her husband were accustomed to visiting Doc's Barbecue Stand, and one of the defendants told a representative of the Black Dispatch that Virgil Payne was a regular habitue of a gambling game that nightly developed in the nearby community.

Sat. 9-28-46

On the stand the prosecuting witness testified in Power's court that around 11 p. m. she was accompanied by her husband to a rest room in the rear of the lot, and that when she emerged from the room three Negro boys appeared, and with a knife threatened her husband, leading her in one direction and her husband in another. She testified that her abductors forced her to go to a house ten blocks away and that in this abandoned structure she was raped five times. On the stand she positively identified all of the defendants released Wednesday. She seemed unusually familiar with their names, and offered the court surprising information about them despite her testimony that the assault was committed in a dark room, without lights. She told the court at one time, "I'll always remember what happened to me, even in my dreams."

Both Payne and his wife showed evidence of being rather weatherbeaten and Payne testified he is a yard worker. When questioned, Payne was never able to tell the court how it was possible, following his alleged release by the boys, to take an [illegible] place where his wife had [illegible] taken ten blocks away, where he had not seen for four hours.

Clint Miers, deputy sheriff, refused to answer [illegible] as to who told him where to go, and who the boys were, and their names, when testifying in court. Miers was taken to 505 South Dolphus around four o'clock in the morning, and when he knocked on the door it opened and Mrs. Payne fell out. No one was discovered in the room but Mrs. Payne. When Miers refused to tell who took him to the address, the bystery deepened. Spectators murmured that Miers either had occult powers or he was led to the cache by Payne and that it was Payne who gave names and addresses.

The testimony showed that the woman's clothing were not torn in any way, but when she arrived at the hospital she had a swollen lip and appeared to have been roughly handled. This, of course, could be accounted for resulting from the fight she had earlier in the evening with another white woman.

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that has Negro doctors, lawyers, hospitals, etc.

At more than one meeting, several factors were discussed including the possibility of making Langston University a first-class under-graduate college and setting up facilities for offering graduate and professional courses elsewhere; or making Langston University the Agricultural and Mechanical college and setting up a college of Arts and Sciences and graduate and professional school elsewhere, as has been done in North Carolina; or setting up nurse training and medicine in Guthrie; or turning over the present campus facilities to an agricultural and trade school extending from the first year of high school through college, with such a school admitting veterans who desired trades or vocational courses ever though they have not completed elementary school.

No decision was reached on

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED OR REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT,

7336

TOWN PASSES OWN ANTI-LYNCH LAW

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

Sat. 8-10-46

SETS PATTERN FOR SOUTHERN CITIES

FAIRBURN, Ga.—Drafting a democratic pattern for other Georgia cities to follow, the progressive city council of this typical little Peachtree State town made history here Monday by being the first to pass a municipal ordinance curbing mob violence and racial persecution.

Fairburn, Ga has

The bill, advocated by Fairburn's fighting Mayor Daniel Duke, who is sparking the fight against the Ku Klux Klan, also sounded the death knell of the hooded order in this town by banning the assembling of groups or mobs which intend to violate the rights of any citizen.

PROVIDES FINES, JAIL TERMS

Under the terms of the ordinance, violators are subject to fines up to $100, plus thirty-day jail sentences.

Meeting in extraordinary session and approving the State-wide crusade by Georgia's Assistant Attorney General Duke, the Council quickly agreed upon the ordinance. The bill also prohibits the congregating of persons intending to incite riots.

The ordinance points out that groups that meet "for the purpose of violating the rights of any citizen of Fairburn, Ga., defined under Federal law, Georgia law, or under the law of the City of Fairburn, or for the purpose of prohibiting the exercise of any right defined thereunder, shall be guilty of an offense against the City of Fairburn and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than $10, nor more than $100, to which may be added a term of imprisonment in the city jail not to exceed thirty days.

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.

HITS WEARERS OF MASKS

Obviously aimed directly at the Klansmen which Mayor Duke is trying to outlaw from the State, the ordinance points out that:

8-10-46

"Whosoever, while enmasked so that his identity shall not be known, in association or in agreement with one or more persons, shall assemble, congregate, or meet together within the city limits of the City of Fairburn, Ga., shall be guilty of an offense against the City of Fairburn, Ga., and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than $10 nor more than $100, to which may be added a term of imprisonment in the city jail not to exceed thirty days.

FEAR MOB ANGER IN EL CENTRO CASE

Tribune Los Angeles, California

Sat 5-4-46

A motion for a change of venue, to enable three El Centro Negroes, charged with the rape and kidnapping of a white El Centro girl, to receive a fair trial free from threat of mob violence, will be heard in El Centro next week.

34h

The three men, who have assertedly been threatened with lynching by irate white El Centro citizens, are: Frank Thompson, Elmer Foster and Charles Williams. All three are charged with forcing the girl, whose name is withheld by police, into their automobile and raping her.

Calif

The three are defended by a Los Angeles attorney, Crispus A. Wright. Wright asked the court to grant a change of venue to San Diego county after the district attorney admitted he had received numerous phone calls from white citizens, threatening that if the three men were released on bail, or if they were successful in gaining their freedom in any way, "there would be a lynching in El Centro". Wright had made a motion for a reduction of bail during the arraignment of the trio last week.

Mob threatens to lynch 3 in El Centro

Los Angeles Cal

Tribune

Los Angeles attorney Crispus Wright returned safely to his worried family here Thursday night after he was reportedly threatened with lynching along with a trio of Negroes he is defending in an El Centro rape case. 5-25-46

34h

The three Negroes, Prentiss Alderson, 28; Milton Foster, 27; and Bryant Thompson, 27, are being held in Imperial county jail pending trial for the alleged kidnapping and rape of Miss Phyllis Mattox, 27, white. Calif

Wright, learning that a group of white citizens are demanding that the trio be turned over to the people for lynching, had asked that the trial be transferred to another county on the grounds that the present jury would not give a "fair and impartial" hearing. He also requested bail reduction, but the county district attorney denied it, declaring that "it would not be safe" for the defendants to be released. Sat.

34h

However, he was able to obtain postponement of the trial until last Wednesday so that he could obtain affidavits and statements to support his request. At TRIBUNE deadline, it was learned that the case has been continued over until Monday.

Calif

According to Ray Lundy, of Pasadena, who personally canvassed sentiment in El Centro, a heretofore quiet community of 11,000 persons, of whom 1,353 are Negroes, the anti-Negro feeling has reached a high pitch in certain sections of the town. 5-25-46

Mrs. John J. Green, white secretary in the Palms courts, a federal housing project, told Lundy that the town had its share of white southern migrants and the general feeling was that the prisoners should be lynched. She also intimated that attorney Wright's life was in danger and recommended that he not try to do very much for his clients but let them serve as an example.

One El Centro daily with a county circulation of 6,000 has played up the case several times with bold headlines and highly-colored stories. Sat.

Alderson, Foster, and Thompson have denied the raping. Their version of the story is that the woman accosted them as they were driving down the street, asked to be taken home and got in their car, then changed her mind about going home and invited them to a "date" at $5 apiece. 5-25-46

"STRING HIM UP," WAS THE CRY FROM A WHITE MOB; NEGRO FLED TO SAFETY — WHITE WOMAN HIT WITH BOTTLE

(34h) Fla.

Tattler Jacksonville, Fla.

Sat 8-24-46

zSaturday Night, August 10th, 1946, at the corner of Main and Beaver streets was the scene of a near lynching when a mob of white hoodlums ran down an innocent Negro.

It was reported that the Arena, on Main and Beaver had just turned out when a Negro passed by and was molested by a white mob. The Negro ran and ran until the mob was closing in on him, then he spied a bottle and swung, the bottle missed the mob and hit a white woman. Then and there the mobsters cried out, "String him up!"

The Negro it was said darted across the street and sped to safety.

It was also said that a mob in a riotous manner had gathered at this corner in readiness for whatever might happen.

Here of late it seems as if Negroes cannot walk certain streets without being molested and manhandled. Such things must be stopped immediately.

So far Jacksonville has enjoyed the honor of being free from mob violence, and we do hope that it will remain that way.

We realize that it's the rough and ready type of both races that cause trouble and uneasiness. This type of people should be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

Jury trial sought for lynch threat victim

Tribune Los Angeles, Cal.

Sat 9-7-46

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Workers Defense League disclosed last week that it may soon forward to a Florida federal grand jury the case of Mack Fryar, a Negro farmer who got lynch threats after he gave the WDL affidavits charging that the Lake county sheriff had fractured his skull while arresting him early in 1945.

WDL brought Fryar and his wife to New York city for safety after the threats.

(34h) Fla.

col ①

State Patrolmen Headoff Lynching

The World Memphis Tenn.

Tues. 9-17-46

TALLAHASSEE — Governor Caldwell last Wednesday night dispatched 15 state highway patrolmen to Perry, one of the meanest towns in this state, to protect a Negro man being held on a fatal accident charge against possible violence.

The Governor said he received a call from a group of "substantial citizens" that an effort might be made to take the Negro from the Taylor County jail for a lynching bee. It was learned that several attempts had been made up to that time to take the man from the jail but that no cooperation was given the would-be lynchers by the law authorities.

The prisoner, William Miles, was the driver of an automobile involved in a Labor Day accident which resulted in the death of Mrs. Roda Brack, 55-year-old white woman of Perry.

After the highway patrolmen arrived in Perry the Negro was taken to the State Prison at Raiford by Taylor County Sheriff J. H. Larker and there has been no report of violence, but several attempts.

It was not learned how the accident occurred.

(34h) ①

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13 Year-Old Jaxon Saved From Lynch Mob By White Minister

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Sat 8-31-46

Youth Bound Over To Certify For Juvenile Court Authorities

①

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—(SNS) — Brutally beaten by a mob of adult white men numbering between 45 to 55, most of them employes of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad Shops, on Thursday afternoon of last week, was Daniel Haywood, 13, of 2239 Forest street in the Mixontown section of the city.

(34h)

The beating of the youth is said to have occurred near Commonwealth Street and Melson avenue, in the Grand Park section of the city, after he had been accused of attempted rape on a five-year-old white girl, who lived with her parents near the scene of the near lynching.

Making the fantastic charge tempt, better than two score of against the Negro lad was a white man, W. L. Clark, Seaboard Shops employe, who testified at a preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace L. B. McCullough, on McDuff avenue, that he saw the youth grab the girl as he alighted from his bicycle, pulled her into a nearby ditch by the side of the road and attempted to tear her clothing from her body as he held her down on the ground.

Frame-Up Suspected

Sat 8-31-46

Clark told the court at the hearing that he was on his way home from work at the shops by foot and as he reached the intersection of Commonwealth and Palm streets, he saw the boy on a bicycle throwing handbills for a store from house to house. He said he then saw the youth grab the young girl and pulled her into a clump of bushes beside the road. He stated that he rushed to the aid of the girl, grabbed the youth, who had the child's clothing partly torn off her body, and rescued her from the alleged assailant.

①

The NEWS learned that Clark and others of the white mob summoned to the scene inflicted a severe beating on the youth and may have lynched him had not the Rev. George Hodges, a white minister, of the same section of the city, intervened and had the youth turned over to police. It was learned further that Clarke failed to tell the jury that he and the others had beaten young Haywood brutally, and mistreating him in resorting to mob violence.

After hearing only the testimony of Clarke the youth was bound over to Criminal Court on charges of assault and attempted rape, and County Solicitor Wayne Ripley, is required, under the law, to certify the case to juvenile court authorities. Haywood, nor the alleged victim, both of whom were at the hearing, were not called to the witness stand.

Threatened Further

It was stated also to this publication from an authentic source that at the hearing the Monday following the alleged assault at- men left their jobs, all white, and went to the courtroom where further threats were made and where Clarke made an attempt to get to Haywood, who was closely guarded by eight deputies from the office of Sheriff Rex Sweat and Constable J. F. (Buddy) Weeks.

Sat 8-31-46

It was stated in a white Jacksonville weekly publication the past week that Joe Robinson, stepfather of young Haywood, was in jail in lieu of a $2,000 bond set by Judge McCullough, on bribery charges, but the NEWS learned that the story was in gross error and interviewed the youth's stepfather, on Sunday afternoon, whose name is William Glover and not Joe Robinson.

The story in the white scandal sheet stated that the youth's stepfather was arrested and charged with bribery after he had offered the mother of the alleged victim money to withhold prosecution.

Mr. Glover was at home when NEWS reporters talked with him Sunday and stated that he had heard or knew anything concerning the bribe or his arrest on the charges.

Efforts are now being made through counsel for Haywood to have the charges dismissed for insufficient evidence based on the fact that Clarke did not give the facts in the case, despite the court's findings. It is believed that Haywood was molested by children in the section as he went about his work and was only retaliating to bodily harm being done or threatened him.

In the meantime he is incarcerated in the Duval County jail with a group of the most notorious and hardened adult criminals at the tender age of 13.

Lynch Threat Will Go To Florida Jury

The Defender Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON — The case of Mack Fryar, Florida Negro farmer, whose skull was fractured by a Lake County sheriff and who was threatened with lynching when he tried to secure redress, may soon be presented to the Florida Grand Jury.

(34h)

Rowland Watts, associate secretary of the Workers Defense League, made the announcement last week after conferences with justice department officials concerning the lynching threats, made to Fryar after he filed affidavits with the league. He charged that the sheriff fractured his skull when arresting him in 1945. Fryar and his wife were brought to live in New York by the league after the threat. Sat. 8-3-46

7358

Woman-Slaying Suspect Saved From Chatham Mob

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

34h

Mon. 9-2-46

SAVANNAH, Sept. 1—(UP)—Bertha Mehrtens, 38, known as the "good Samaritan" of the Pin Point fishing village southeast of Savannah, was criminally assaulted and slain early Sunday and police rescued her suspected slayer by running a gantlet of bullets from a mob bent on lynching him.

The accused killer is Pete Coleman, a white man of uncertain connections and a bad reputation, Chatham County Police Chief W. F. Chapman said. He himself had called the police—and at the same time notified them of the crime—when he realized the mob was after him.

The brutal assault and the subsequent battle to save Coleman for legal justice occurred in a tiny community in the lush coastal marshes Southeast of here in the estuary of the Savannah River.

ANGRY AT FAMILY

Sunday night, the angry citizens of Pin Point were reported turning their wrath on the family which had sheltered Coleman while the mob hunted him. The family was told to get out of town by sundown or their house would be burned down, according to a report from the scene.

When the police went to get Coleman at the village house where he was hiding, more than 100 bullets were fired at their car by a mob of several hundred, including women, according to Chief Chapman, who was part of the "rescue" squad.

"How we ever got him out of there without all of us getting killed the Lord alone knows," Chapman said. "They shot off a tire and riddled the back end of the car. I think they were just trying to stop us so they could get that man out of there and kill him."

COLEMAN JAILED

The car with one tire shot off made its way safely back to Savannah and Coleman was placed in the stout County Jail under a murder charge, Chapman said.

The mob was reported later to have dispersed and there was no sign of unusual activity outside the jail.

According to reports pieced together by Chapman, Coleman had lured Miss Mehrtens from her house before dawn by playing upon her well-known sympathies—telling her that a friend had been injured in an automobile accident up the road.

Miss Mehrtens, who was single, lived with her mother and father. She told them that Coleman was outside and what he wanted, and the parents thus were able later to provide a clue to her assailant.

7359

Police Grill Rape-Slayer Suspect

Times-Dispatch Richmond, Va.

Tues 9-3-46

SAVANNAH, GA., Sept. 2—(UP)—Tension ran high tonight in the coastal village of Pin Point near here as police grilled Pete Coleman, a roaming community bad boy who was accused of brutally raping and slaying Bertha Mehrtens, beloved "good samaritan" of the 200-year-old mission town.

34h

Solicitor-General Samuel A. Cann said he believed Coleman was the one who killed the 38-year-old spinster Sunday and left her nude body sprawled in a swamp. There was no announcement, however, of any formal charge against him.

Behind bars of the stout Chatham County jail, the 27-year-old Coleman nervously jumped at every sound from outside. Fresh in his mind was the cry of an angry mob that came near lynching him before he was snatched to safety by police who braved a fusillade of buckshot and stones.

W. A. Stephens, Coleman's uncle, appealed personally to Governor Ellis Arnall in Atlanta to afford him protection for his family and property, both threatened by the townspeople who loved "Miss Bertha."

Stephens, although given until Wednesday morning to pack his belongings and move his family out of Chatham County forever beat a hasty retreat late Sunday going to some undisclosed place in Savannah.

Stephens pleaded he was innocent of harboring Coleman. Instead, he told reporters, he personally notified county officers the hunted youth was at his home. When they arrived, Coleman had fled to a swamp near by where he was found half buried in ooze.

Meanwhile, the Men's Club of the Montgomery community in which Pin Point is situated scheduled a mass meeting tonight to demand more police protection.

SAVE WHITE MAN FROM MOB

The Times New York, N.Y.

Georgia Police Brave Gunfire, Get Man Accused in Slaying

Mon. 9-2-46

34h

SAVANNAH, Ga., Sept. 1 (U.P.)—Police ran a gantlet of rifle and shotgun fire from an angry mob today and rescued a white man, Peter Colman, who they said assaulted and murdered Bertha Mehrtens, 38, and then called the Sheriff because he feared the mob would lynch him.

Chief W. F. Chapman and other police drove in a squad car through a hail of bullets from a mob of several hundred persons to arrest Colman. A tire was shot off, but the police squad managed to get Colman out of his house and safely in jail with no one injured.

Chief Chapman said Colman confessed the assault and slaying. He said Colman called at Miss Mehrtens' house, in a small community seven miles southeast of Savannah, at 4:30 o'clock this morning and told her a friend of hers was injured in an automobile accident.

Miss Mehrtens dressed and left with Colman. Hours later her body was found beside a small road just outside town. She had been slashed and criminally assaulted.

Village residents quickly formed a posse. 9-2-46

Georgia Laborer Accused of Killing 'Good Samaritan'

Louisville, Ky.

Wed. 9-4-46

Courier-Journal

Savannah, Ga., Sept. 3 (AP)—A coroner's jury today accused a 26-year-old white laborer of the slaying of the "Good Samaritan" of Montgomery Heights, a coastal village near here, and said he "possibly" had an accomplice.

34h

The "Samaritan," Miss Bertha Mehrtens, 38, was found beaten and strangled to death near her home Sunday.

Wed 9-4-46

The laborer, Pete Coleman, was arrested at the home of an uncle after the slaying. Police took him from the home under gunfire from a crowd of angry neighbors.

Mob Threatens Accused's Kin In Death Of 'Good Samaritan'

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala.

Tues 9-3-46

SAVANNAH, GA., Sept. 2.—(AP)—An uncle of a 26-year-old white laborer held in the fatal attack upon "the Good Samaritan of Montgomery Heights" sought protection today against what he said were threats of angered neighbors to burn his home.

34h

The appeal came from W. A. Stephens, whose nephew, Pete Coleman, was arrested for questioning by county police probing the beating and strangling death of Bertha Mehrtens, 38, beloved in her community for deeds of mercy.

"They told me," said Stephens, a roofing company owner, "that they'd burn my $8,000 home to the ground if I didn't get out.

"I tried to get Gov. Arnall to protect me, but I haven't been able to reach him.

"If I can't get him, I am going to call on J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the FBI. All I did was to protect Pete from the mob. That's no crime."

County police braved a hail of bullets to rescue Coleman from the Stephens home yesterday after incensed neighbors of Miss Mehrtens—men and women—armed themselves with guns and pistols to avenge her death.

County Police Chief

Chapman said 100 or more shots struck the police car as it drove away. A tire was punctured, he added, but nobody was hurt and the officers took Coleman to the county police station where he was held without charge.

Miss Mehrtens' body was found yesterday 50 yards from a community road, near her home, Chapman said she had been beaten and strangled and, in all probability, had been raped.

34h

Tues 9-3-46

The county police chief quoted her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Mehrtens, as saying she had been lured from home at dawn by a false report that a neighbor had been hurt in an automobile accident.

Police Save Rape-Slayer From Mob

Mon. 9-2-46

Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Squad Car Runs Barrage of 100 Shots

Savannah, Ga., Sept. 2 (U.P.)—A police squad car ran through a barrage of more than 100 shots fired by an angry mob today to rescue a man who phone police headquarters a frantic message that "the mob is after me" for the rape and slaying of a 38-year-old baby sitter.

The telephone call from Peter Coleman was the first news the police had that Bertha Mehrtens, known to her neighbors in the tiny fishing village of Pin Point as the good Samaritan," had been assaulted and killed.

34h

Fired Upon By Mob.

County Police Chief W. F. Chapman and two patrolmen went to the village and ran into rifle and shotgun fire from the mob of several hundred persons who suspected Coleman of the crime and were looking for him. A tire was shot off the patrol car and the rear end was riddled.

Police said the crime occurred before dawn today in the fishing village seven miles south of here.

Chapman said Coleman admitted he knocked at Miss Mehrtens door and told her a friend had been injured in an automobile accident down the road.

Miss Mehrtens, known for her charitable work for the sick, told her mother and father that Coleman was outside, then she dressed and went with him. That was the last seen of her until neighbors found her slashed and assaulted body beside a lane outside the village a few hours later.

Mon. 9-2-46

Takes Refuge In House.

Chapman said Coleman had a record for minor crimes and was under indictment for assault with intent to murder a Savannah man. The mob suspected him immediately and began looking for him without calling police. He had taken refuge in a house with a telephone and when the mob got close he rang police headquarters with the frantic appeal to resuce him.

When the three policemen reached Pin Point they drove between lines of surly villagers to the house to which Coleman had directed them.

Berrien Slaying Suspects Hidden To Foil Crowd

Atlanta Ga. Journal

October 28, 1946

NASHVILLE, Ga. Oct. 28.—(AP) Three negroes under investigation in the slaying of an aged grocer were held in an undisclosed jail Monday after their removal from the Berrien County Jail Sunday night when a crowd gathered around the courthouse, a block away.

34h

The group, estimated at between 50 and 100 persons, dispersed quietly about 11 p. m. after arrival of Georgia state patrolmen summoned by the sheriff's office.

The battered body of Marcus Lee, 71, was found in a pool of water near his Ray City home Sunday afternoon.

Deputy Sheriffs J. W. Hughes and Millard Luke had taken the negroes, whose names were not disclosed, into custody for questioning; when they noticed the crowd forming, they called the patrol for assistance.

The sheriff's office said Lee was beaten badly about the head, apparently with a heavy hoe. It had not been established definitely when the white man was slain.

Lee worked for a son-in-law, Marcus Bennett, at the latter's filling station. Another son-in-law, Ethridge Sirmans, said the elderly man was robbed of $250 and a watch.

Georgia Negro Admits Slaying And Robbery

The News

Birmingham, Ala.

NASHVILLE, Ga., Nov. 1—(AP)—A 29-year-old Negro, Albert Parker—one of three rushed to an undisclosed jail earlier this week—has admitted beating to death and robbing Marcus Lee, 71, Inspector W. A. Ross of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation reported.

Fri

34h

Ross said last night Parker signed a statement that he struck down the aged Ray City white man with a grubbing hoe, took a $100 bill and a watch from him and tossed the body into a brush pile.

11-1-46

The watch was found in the Negro's pocket, the officer said. Parker's companions were absolved of any part in the crime, Ross added. The three were hurried away for safe-keeping when officers reported a group of men gathered around the local jail.

Lee was slain early Sunday. His body was found that afternoon.

34h 1946

Georgia

7341

Mob Forms; Negroes Taken Into Custody

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga. Tues. 10-29-46

NASHVILLE, Ga. — (S N S) — Three Negroes arrested in connection with the death of Marcus Lee, 70, from whom no confession has been taken were held in the Berrien County jail where they were threatened by a mob of about 75 men, according to Deputies Sheriff J. W. Hughes and Millard Luke, who appealed to the Tifton State Patrol Office for help.

34h

The suspects, Albert Parker of Ray City, Carey Bell of Ray City and Colling McQueen of Willacoochee have been moved to an undisclosed jail in custody of the Georgia State Patrol.

34h 1946

Kentucky

7342

Lynch Party Flops; Can't Find Leader

The Defender

Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 11-2-46

(1)-2

34h

By FAY YOUNG

FRANKFORT, Ky. — The usual calm and peace of a Saturday morning in the state capital was upset by a mob of 500 men and boys, some of them hillbillies and tobacco farm workers dressed in overalls, who were bent on lynching two Negroes here following the arrest of the pair.

All that was needed was a leader who would carry out the urgings of the hot-headed members of the mob which had been stirred up by the rumors that a white state highway patrolman had been beaten nearly to death by the two prisoners.

The two men, Maurice Bogle, 23, Lancaster, Ky., and Roscoe Chambers, 29, Bluefield, W. Va., a former lieutenant in the army, were hurriedly taken from the rear of the police station and lodged in the Lexington jail for safe keeping. They were held on bonds of $20,000 each by Franklin County's Judge Boone Hamilton.

The charges against both were assault and battery and resisting an officer. Local white lawyers said the amount seemed "rather excessive" for the charges.

Bogle and Chambers were here for the homecoming football game between Kentucky State college and Texas college of Tyler, Tex. Chambers played end on the Kentucky team in 1937-40.

Ed Yount, a highway patrolman, off duty and not in a white highway patrol car, ordered the two men to stop, claiming they had brushed against his car. Chambers demanded that Yount show some credentials to prove that he was really a policeman, and the fight ensued.

7343

Mob Captures Negro, Delivers Him Safely To Sheriff's Deputies

The News
Birmingham, Ala.
Mon. 8-19-46

34h

BATON ROUGE, La., Aug. 19—(AP)—A Negro who was turned over peaceably by a crowd to sheriff's deputies will be charged today with shooting with intent to murder in connection with the wounding of an 8-year-old white girl, Chief Criminal Deputy L. H. Strickland said.

The man, identified by Strickland as Joe Moore, 20, of Zachary, La., was taken yesterday to New Orleans for safekeeping in the parish prison there.

Strickland said Moore, refused a credit extension by Leslie Anderson, Zachary storekeeper, Saturday fired two shotgun blasts, one into Anderson's store, the other into his home next door. The second blast, the officers said, slightly wounded Patricia Drumpoole, 8.

Meanwhile, Strickland said, an unidentified neighbor shot Moore, wounding him in the chest, but not seriously.

Strickland said Moore was taken by a crowd out of his own house, where he had barricaded himself, but that when officers arrived at the same time the crowd handed the Negro over to them.

Negro War Veteran Is Shot

New York, N.Y.

CROWLEY, La., Aug. 21 (AP)—Joe Nugent, deputy sheriff, said today that he had taken Wallace Guillory, 20-year-old Negro ex-serviceman into protective custody after a shooting incident yesterday in which the youth was slightly wounded by a white man.

34h

Mr. Nugent said that a shotgun blast fired by Duley Sittig, a rice farmer, struck Mr. Guillory in the shoulder and legs. The deputy's account of the incident was as follows: Sun - 8-22-46

Mr. Guillory, armed with a shotgun, was rounding up stray hogs for his father, whn he went to the Walter Sittig farm to collect five dollars owed to him by Walter Sittig. He became involved in an argument with Duley Sittig, a brother of Walter, and when Mr. Sittig advanced, Mr. Guillory raised his shotgun.

Mr. Sittig rushed into the Walter Sittig home, took a shotgun and fired at Mr. Guillory, wounding him slightly in the shoulders and legs. The youth returned the fire.

When Mr. Nugent arrived at the farm, several white persons had gathered. He cautioned them to remain there, then went to the Guillory home. The deputy took the youth into custody and lodged him in the parish jail here "to avoid further incident."

AVES MAN

Courier

FROM MOB

Pittsburgh, Pa.
8-[illegible]

NEW ORLEANS, La.—To prevent racial trouble and potential mob violence, Joe Moore, 23, was brought here Sunday by East Baton Rouge police after he had wounded a 7-year-old white girl with a shotgun blast while firing at a Zachary, La., storekeeper who refused to give him further credit.

Deputies said they rescued Moore after a mob had surrounded his barricaded home. He had been shot in the chest by one of several bullets fired by the mob. Parish officials said wounds of the child, Patricia Grumpoole, were not serious, although eighteen birdshot were taken from her back and left arm.

According to Leslie Anderson, the white storekeeper, the Grumpoole child had been playing with his own daughter, Fay, near the store.

(1)

34h 1946

Maryland

7344

altimore Police Save Man From Negro Mob

Advertiser

34h Md.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 21.—(AP)—olice rescued a white motoris rom a crowd of about 75 Negroes ho had dragged him from his ar and were beating him after a egro was injured fatally by his utomobile tonight.

Patrolmen Albert Cormack and nthony Filipiak said that when hey arrived on the scene, more persons were running up from every direction. Montgomery, Ala.

(1)

The motorist, identified by Cormack and Filipiak as William F. Murray, 30, of Baltimore, was iven first aid treatment. He told the policemen that a wallet, containing $18, was taken from his ocket during the disturbance.

The pedestrian, Gus Roberts, bout 45, died shortly after admittance to the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Mon. 12-23-46.

7345

Man almost lynched for running over white child

HOLLY SPRINGS, Miss.—Nell Smith, 32 was almost lynched by an angry mob here last week after his car struck and killed an 8-year-old white girl who was coming home from school. Police rescued and took him to an unnamed jail on a manslaughter charge.

34h

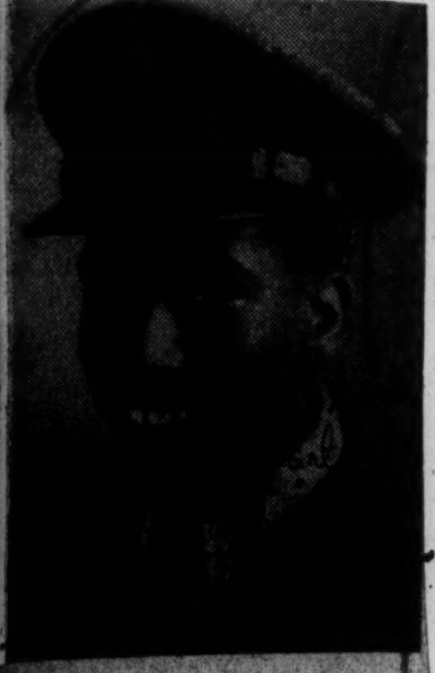
MAN RESCUED FROM MOB IN MISSISSIPPI

Daily News
Atlanta, Ga
-17-46

MEMPHIS, TENN. — (SNS) — County officials rescued a Negro man, Flue Ell Smith of West Point Miss., from an attacking mob last week-end, and placed him in an unannounced jail, as the result of a fatal traffic accident in which a young white girl was killed, the Memphis World learned from reliable sources.

34h Miss

Reports were also to the effect that Smith's car struck eight year-old Mary Louise Hancock, of near Windbourne, Miss., as she was walking on the highway. When the state highway patrolmen reached the scene, they found Smith being attacked by a revengeful crowd. Smith was rescued by the officers, and placed in jail on a charge of manslaughter. His whereabouts were not revealed after he was taken in custody of the law.


Edward Baptiste, returned war vet, victim of Mississippi "Injustice".

Whisked From Danger Of Lynch Mob By Trio And Rushed Here

New Orleans La.
Louisiana Weekly

Youth Tells Dramatic Story, Falls Unconscious; Now in Army Hospital

34K Miss ①

Both military authorities and the NAACP are investigating the brutality case of Edward Jones Baptiste, 19, returned war soldier, who was a victim of Mississippi Nazi-like tactics in the Southern Railroad Station in Hattiesburg, Miss. 6-1-46 Sat

Baptiste, veteran of 14 months service in the China, Burma and India theatre informed his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hildred Baptiste of 9017 Edinburgh Street, that he was en route home from the Pacific and expected to ~~arrive soon.~~ The letter came from a California camp. His family, joyful over the news, were making big preparations for his return and a message of the time of arrival of his train. It was not until three Negro civilians knocked on the door of Mrs. Baptist last Wednesday night carrying the limp body of her son, had she received any more word from him of his whereabouts. 6-1-46

Upon reviving after being brought to his home, Edward tells the following story. "I arrived in Hattiesburg, Mississippi on the 15th of May. Having to change to another train for New Orleans, I inquired from the ticket agent about the train going to New Orleans; he informed me that the train had left already. I told him I wish I could have caught that train. He then asked me, 'N——r' don't you know that you are in Mississippi, and when I told you that the train had left for New Orleans you should have said 'Yes Sir.' My only answer to him was that I was interested in but one thing, and that was to get home as soon as possible. The next thing I remembered was a hard blow on the side of my head."

After telling his story Edward dropped unconscious to the floor, Military Police were informed, and Edward was taken to the Army Base Hospital, where he is in an undetermined condition suffering from a blood clot on the brain, caused by a blunt instrument. ①

Further information reveals that because of the quick thinking of the three Negro civilians, Edwards was saved from the hands of a pack of White citizens of Hattiesburg who had gathered to do him more harm. One of the Negroes carried Edwards' body eight blocks away from the angry mob; many are reported to have had guns. 6-1-46

34K Miss

In reporting the incident to the Provost Marshall here in New Orleans he informed this paper that he had not received any report of the affair, but would take immediate action, to find the guilty party or parties. The case was referred to Camp Shelby, Miss., where a thorough investigation is being made at Hattiesburg.

34h Miss

Mr. Daniel Byrd, executive secretary of the local branch of the NAACP, is also investigating the case, and will file a protest with the Internal Security Division of the U. S. Army and the Civil Liberty Committee of the United States Department of Justice.

Officer Aids Man's Escape From Mob To Avoid Lynching

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.
Sat 9-21-46

JACKSON, Miss. — (ANP) — An unidentified peace officer is credited with blocking a possible lynching here recently by misleading an all-white posse in search of Johnny Craft, marine veteran who is being held in the Hinds county jail on charges of being the leader in the battle of Sullivan's Hollow in Smith county where four peace officers were wounded.

34h

Craft's escape, according to officers here Saturday, was affected by the help of a white law enforcement officer who knew where he and other fugitives were hiding in the woods that were surrounded by a cordon of the 200-man posse. The officer is said to have steered the posse in another direction and later picked up Craft, gave him a ride toward Jackson, and advised him to surrender to the Hinds county jailer in order to be placed in the "mob-proof" Hinds county jail.

Johnny told the jailer he had slipped through the posse by walking to Mendenhall and down the G. & S. I. railroad to Florence where he caught a ride here, officer said. Craft's surrender on August 13 climaxed a 24-hour manhunt for members of the Craft and Cooper families allegedly involved in the Sullivan's Hollow shooting in which one Negro was also wounded in the battle.

Reports, following the capture of 15 members of the two Negro families, charged two white families with the shooting during feuding over hiring Negro form workers. Police nabbed last week 69-year-old H. J. Sullivan and his 19-year-old nephew, Herbert H. Sullivan, both whites, after receiving information that the four peace officers were wounded during "a smoldering feud between white families."

Johnny is said to have admitted shooting into a car in which two white men were riding but denied firing on the peace officers. He is being held in Hinds county jail along with Garfield, W. O., T. J., and Bill Craft. No reports were made on what authorities plan to do with the two Sullivans nor what action will be taken against the four Craft brothers.

Speculation is also rife as to what will be the white law enforcement officer's fate that helped save Johnny from possible lynching.

1—

Mississippi Mob Fails To Take Prisoner

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

34h ①

MERIDAN, Miss.— Quick thinking by local police recently prevented an irate white mob here from exercising violence upon R. C. Barlow, a local colored citizen, who is charged with striking Mrs. E. G. Crawford, a white woman, with either a brick or some other instrument. Efforts of the mob to take Barlow from the law officers were futile as he was rushed to the city jail. Sat. 8-17-46

Police are investigating the incidents.

Officer Averts Lynching by Outwitting Mississippi Mob

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 9-14-46

JACKSON, Miss. (ANP)—An unidentified officer blocked a possible lynching here recently by misleading a white posse in search of Johnny Craft, marine veteran, charged with leading a battle in Smith County, where four peace officers were wounded.

The officer is said to have steered the posse in another direction, picked up Craft and rode him toward Jackson, and advised him to surrender to the Hinds County jailer to assure his safety in the "mob proof" jail.

Craft's surrender on Aug. 13 climaxed a 24-hour manhunt for members of the Craft and Cooper families allegedly involved in the Sullivan's Hollow shooting in which a colored man was also wounded in the battle.

34h

Shot, Beaten, And Jailed Before Receiving Medical Aid Following "Arrest"

The Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.
Sat. 9-21-46

346

Lynching Narrowly Averted When Sheriff Intervenes, Disperses Mob

Tylertown, Miss.—Dixie's racial intolerance speeded up the wheels of "Southern Justice" and sent a Negro war veteran to the state prison at Parchman, Miss., three weeks before the national office of the NAACP sent an investigator into this town, it was learned on Wednesday.

Acting on a report that a war veteran named Edro Taylor had been beaten, shot, jailed and again beaten by law officers before receiving medical attention, the NAACP, two weeks ago, instructed an investigator to come into this community and get facts on the case and the pending trial.

Edro Taylor, 25-year-old former Seaman First Class in the United States Navy, was tried in the circuit court on Wednesday, August 14, on a charge of assault and battery and attempt to kill, investigators learned. He was found guilty and was sentenced by Circuit Judge S. S. Quinn to serve six years in the state penitentiary. Interested persons had informed the NAACP that he would face trial in September.

According to information received, Taylor, who had served in the Navy for 26 months and 24 months overseas in the Pacific Theatre was honorably discharged from service at the Navy Separation Center in New Orleans on Christmas Day, 1945.

He came home to his wife, Mrs. Selma Taylor, and spent the holidays.

On Saturday, January 6, 1946, Taylor was seated in a restaurant owned and operated by one Hiberd Esco when a disturbance occurred behind the establishment. This town is located in the County of Walthall where liquor is prohibited.

One of a group of Negroes drinking behind the restaurant had thrown an empty flask and barely missed hitting a white man named Lloyd Simmons, owner of the property. Simmons went to call the town police.

Four members of the town force appeared on the scene, it was reported, Town Marshal Albert Sullivan, Officers Otha Yarber, Fred Fortenberry, and Albert Futch. All were in civilian clothes.

The officers went in the rear of the restaurant and found no persons there and Marshal Sullivan left while the other three entered the place. Witnesses said they began striking Negroes with their clubs and guns without saying anything.

Edro Taylor, it is reported, did not know the men were officers and started to leave the place. One of the officers shoved him back and when he ducked around the officer, the officer, Otha Yarber, began beating him on the head with a club. Taylor, it is reported, pulled out a knife and began cutting at his assailants, who blocked the door. He inflicted a slight cut on the arm of Albert Futch and scratched Officer Fortenberry, witnesses said.

346

They all turned on Edro Taylor and began beating him and Futch backed off, took aim and shot Taylor in the right side. Taylor fell to the floor and the officers stooped over him and beat him with a billy. Taylor arose, attempted to run out and fell again. The Weekly New Orleans La.

The officers then took Taylor to the city jail and beat him some more, witnesses declared, and a mob of 25 white men formed quickly and sought to remove him from the jail to lynch him. Sat.

Town Marshal Sullivan, it is reported, arrived on the scene, dispersed the mob and stopped Officer Fortenberry from beating the helpless Taylor, saying the wounded man should be taken to a hospital. 9-21-46

Taylor was taken to Pittman Hospital where it was found that the policeman's bullet had torn through his lungs. He was handcuffed and legs shackled spread-eagle fashion in the bed, despite his serious condition and kept under guard night and day. Claude Johnson guarded him by day, and Mack Fortenberry guarded him at night. His wife was the only person permitted to visit him, but when it was thought that he could not live, his mother was admitted.

Taylor remained in Pittman Hospital for three months and was then returned to jail. Some time afterwards, Seth Ginn, circuit chancery clerk, obtained Taylor's release. Miss.

On May 6, 1946, Taylor was taken to Ginn's home to work until the date of trial. He and his wife were given a little house in Ginn's back yard and Taylor was told he would be paid for his service.

346

Shortly after 7 p. m. that same night, Taylor and his wife were inside with doors closed when Officers Yarber, Fortenberry and two other white men came and knocked on the door. They tried to break the door, stomped on the porch, shook the rear doors and windows, threw rocks on top of the house and kept calling to find out if anyone was in the house. They continued until 2 a. m. and believing no one was there, began talking about what they were going to do if they ever caught Taylor. 9-21-46

The terrified couple told Mr. Ginn and were not troubled afterward.

On August 14, Taylor was tried. He requested that the court give him a lawyer but was denied. Asked if he were guilty, he admitted cutting the officer saying he did it in self-defense. He was pronounced guilty of assault and battery and attempt to kill, and on August 20, was taken to the state penitentiary at Parchman, Mississippi to serve six years.

Hibert Esco, it is reported, was forced to close up his restaurant and leave this town because of local police intimidation.

7338

2 POLICEMEN AVERT QUEENS LYNCHING

Times

Crowd Knocks Them Down in Vain Effort to Seize Prisoner After Assault on Woman

34h

N.Y.

Although knocked down and mauled by a hundred Jackson Heights residents trying to wrest a prisoner from them, two radio patrolmen fought off the irate crowd early yesterday morning and took the suspect unharmed to the station house. There he was booked on a charge of waylaying a young woman and felling her with an eleven-pound brick.

At 12:10 A. M. Mrs. Helen Komlosy, 25 years old, of 34-58 Ninetieth Street, Jackson Heights, Queens, was walking toward her home from the subway station at Roosevelt Avenue and Ninetieth Street when she noticed a short, stocky man following her. She broke into a run and was within two blocks of her home when the man overtook her, smashed her over the head with the brick and grabbed for her handbag.

Screaming, she fell to the sidewalk. Within a few minutes, men and women streamed from near-by apartment houses and gave chase as the footpad ran south toward the subway. When he ducked into a weed-covered lot near the station the crowd halted to let radio patrolmen Edward Albrecht and Alfred Brumbach search through the dark, shadowy plot.

7-29-46

Flashlights in hand, they moved cautiously through the tall grass and flushed the suspect hiding on the ground near a small shed. The prisoner offered no fight and they started with him for the radio car parked near the scene of the attack. Suddenly the crowd rushed them and shouted: "Let's have him. We'll take care of him." The patrolmen were knocked to the ground and pummeled, but managed to hold on to their prisoner, Henry McNair, 43, of 18 East 117th Street, in Harlem. Finally reinforcements arrived and calmed the angry neighbors.

Prisoner Welcomes Custody

As McNair was driven off in the radio car he said to his captors: "I'm sure glad to get away from that mob." At the Newtown station, Mrs. Komlosy formally identified the prisoner and left for home after being treated for a scalp wound that required three stitches and injuries to her shoulder. The patrolmen also were attended for body bruises.

In Queens Felony Court, McNair, who said he had served five years in Florida State Prison for assault, told Magistrate David P. McKean he was "guilty of assaulting the woman." He said he had gone to the neighborhood about 7 P. M. Saturday in search of work as a pants presser, but ended the night drinking.

The police said they had found witnesses who could testify to the assault and the attempt at robbery. The magistrate ordered them produced for the grand jury and held McNair in $10,000 bail.

N.Y. COP AVERTS A LYNCHING

The Plaindealer

Fri. 8-9-46

Kansas City, Kansas

34h

New York (ANP) — Only the courage and ability to "take it" of two radio patrolmen saved Henry McNair, 43, accused of assault on a woman, from lynching by an infuriated mob of Jackson Heights' residents last week. The policemen withstood pummeling by a crowd estimated at 100 all trying to wrest the prisoner from them.

With shouts of "Let's have him, We'll take care of him," the crowd fought the two policemen for several minutes until reinforcements arrived to calm the would-be lynchers. As McNair was driven off in the radio car he said to the patrolmen: "I'm sure glad to get away from that mob."

Booked on a charged of waylaying a young woman and felling her with an 11-pound brick, McNair admitted his guilt. He said he had gone to the Queens' section about 7 p.m. in search of work as a pants presser, but had ended the night drinking. He was captured early Sunday morning.

In Queens Felony court, McNair revealed he had served five years in Florida State prison for assault. Pending a grand jury hearing, he is being held in jail under $10,000 bond.

Columbia, S. C., State
Aug. 3, 1946

From Police

34h

N.Y.

Human nature apparently is little different in the North from what it is in the South under similar provocation. This is illustrated by the near lynching of a Negro in New York City a few days ago after the Negro had grabbed a young housewife as she was walking toward her home and smashed her over the head with an 11-pound rock. Her screams attracted persons passing nearby who rescued her. The assailant was surrounded in a clump of bushes until officers arrived and arrested him. Then the police battled the mob who tried to seize him, one of the policemen being beaten up in the affair.

"Let us take him, we'll take care of him," the mob was quoted as shouting. "We know what to do with people like him."

The Negro was taken to jail and held under $10,000 bail. He was quoted as telling the magistrate before whom he was docketed for trial, "I am guilty, judge."

The story as it appeared in the New York Mirror follows:

More than 100 Jackson Heights residents—many of them in their nightclothes—tried vainly to wrest a Negro from two policemen early yesterday after he attacked a young housewife on a darkened street with an 11-pound rock.

6,11

①

One of the patrolmen was so badly mauled that he required medical treatment.

But the two managed to hold on to their prisoner and get him to the Newton Station in their radio car.

There, Mrs. Helen Komlosy, 25, of 34-58 90th St., identified Henry McNair, 43, of 18 W. 117th St., as her assailant. McNair was brought before her after a doctor put three stitches behind her right ear and treated her bruised right shoulder.

McNair was held in $10,000 bail for the grand jury on a felonious-assault charge when arraigned later in Ridgewood Felony Court.

When the charge, signed by Mrs. Komlosy, was read to him, McNair blurted:

"I'm guilty, judge."

Magistrate McKean directed, however, that the record show McNair had waived examination.

McNair is said to have been arrested several times in Manhattan. He told police he served five years in Florida State Prison on an assault charge.

Mrs. Komlosy told police she got off the Flushing subway line at the 90th street station and was walking along 90th street to her home when she heard footsteps behind her. She stopped, turned and saw McNair approaching.

Mrs. Komlosy said she screamed and as she did, she was felled by a rock. Her screams attracted residents and they swarmed out of their houses. McNair fled, leaving her on the walk.

The crowd chased McNair, but lost him in a lot about two blocks away. They kept guard and when a radio car arrived, directed the two policemen to the place.

Patrolmen Edward Albrecht and Alfred Brumbach searched the lot with flashlights and finally Albrecht stumbled over McNair hugging the ground near a small real-estate shack.

As they hauled him out, the Jackson Heights people moved in menacingly and there were shouts of:

"Let's us take him, we'll take care of him. We know what to do with people like him."

7337

EX-SOLDIER ACCUSED IN DEATH SAVED FROM 'MOUNTAIN JUSTICE'

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 9-28-46

① First attempt

34h

By A. M. RIVERA Jr., Staff Correspondent

SYLVA, N. C.—A melodramatic last-minute rescue by alert police saved Paul Dorsey, 24-year-old Army veteran of three campaigns, from the horrible fate of mountain justice here last week when he was taken from the custody of over 300 heavily armed, tobacco-spitting, cursing mountaineers.

Dorsey is alleged to have killed William Jordan, 45, white truck driver, in a fist fight here when the white man berated his girl friend with foul language.

ACCOSTED WHILE WALKING TRACKS

This Courier correspondent learned from an interview with Miss Martha Jane Bryson, girl friend of Dorsey, and only eye-witness to the fracas, that while strolling along the railroad tracks Sunday evening about 7:15 o'clock, she and Dorsey were accosted by Jordan, appearing to have been drinking heavily, who began berating her with foul language and that when Dorsey asked him to desist, he continued the vulgar attack with more vehemence than before.

According to the story as told by Miss Bryson, Dorsey struck Jordan with his first, knocking him to the ground and when the white man arose he continued his vile references to her. Dorsey is reported to have felled him again, but this time he picked the white man up, placed his hat on his head and warned him to "go on home and attend to your business."

Realizing the situation he was in, Dorsey became frightened and decided to leave the vicinity. It was reported that he fled the Sylva area, following the edges of a creek, later boarding an eastbound Trailways bus near Willetts, N. C.

Four unidentified youths spotted Dorsey as he hailed the bus. Two of them climbed aboard with him while the other two trailed in an auto. In the meantime, police authorities at Sylva learned the veteran was on the bus and took up the chase. At Balsam, N. C., the would-be lynchers stopped the bus, walked up to Dorsey and said, 'All right n—r, here's where you get off.' As the trio dismounted from the bus, the white youths with Dorsey attempted to join their awaiting car, the police squad car drove up and took Dorsey into custody transferring him to the Haywood County jail at Waynesville, N. C.

The Courier

In the interim news reached the swelling mob that Jordan had died at the home of a neighbor near the scene of the fight.

Pittsburgh

SEARCHED JAIL

According to neighbors, the searching flashlights of the mob dotted the darkness like fireflies as they focused on every bush. When word reached the mob, then headed for Waynesville, that Dorsey had been taken into custody in Sylva, they immediately headed for the Jackson County Court House in Sylva and refused to disperse until they were satisfied by the jailer that Dorsey was not there.

Coroner Lum Dills of Dillsboro, N. C., indicated after an autopsy had been performed, that Jordan came to his death as the result of "a blow or blows to the head by a blunt instrument which left a mark two or three inches long."

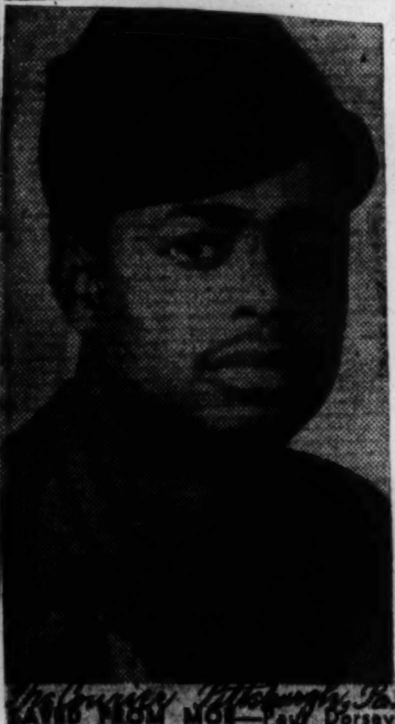
Mrs. Gladys Dorsey Witherspoon, interviewed at the home of her in-laws in High Point, N. C., said that Paul was the quietest and best mannered of his four brothers and five sisters. Describing her son as approximately five feet six or seven inches tall and weighing about 155 pounds, she told The Courier that during his three years in the service as an Army corporal, he received three Battle Stars and a Good Conduct citation. She was unable to give a full account of his Army career because, "Paul never liked to talk much about what he did." However, she did recall that he was somewhere between Belgium and Luxemburg when the Germans surrendered. He had completed eight grades of schooling and had never been arrested before in his life.

NAACP INVESTIGATES

Mrs. L. R. Michael of Asheville, N. C., was instructed to investigate the case for the national office of the NAACP. Sat. 9-28-46

Unidentified interested persons secured the services of Dr. A. A. Nichols, white, of Sylva to be present at the autopsy and unconfirmed rumors, which he would neither admit nor deny, insist that his findings were death due to heart attack caused by shock.

Dorsey, charged with first degree murder, will be tried Oct. 7, 1946, unless a change of venue and a continuation is granted.



The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

SAVED FROM MOB—Paul Dorsey, 24-year-old war veteran and wearer of three major battle stars, was saved by police last week from a mob in Sylva, N. C., after he had been accused of murdering a white truck driver. The truck driver is alleged to have insulted Dorsey's girl-friend. The same lynch party made a second attempt to get Dorsey after he had been placed under heavy guard in the Waynesville (S. C.) jail. Sat. 9-28-46

34h

N.C. Officers Prevent Lynching

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

WAYNESVILLE, N.C.—Arriving just as four white youths were thrusting a 24-year-old war veteran into a car preparatory to turning him over to a Sylva mob, Haywood County police took him into custody, put him in the local jail and set armed officers on watch.

Paul Dorsey, the veteran, was wanted for questioning in the beating to death of a 45-year-old white truck driver, who allegedly met death in the colored section of Sylva on Sunday night.

400 Storm Jail

An angry mob of 400 Sylva citizens, demanding vengeance, closed in on the Sylva jail on Monday believing that Dorsey was there. After they threatened to tear it down, the sheriff allowed them to search it for Dorsey. Not finding him, they dispersed.

Four white youths from Sylva, none identified, spotted Dorsey as he boarded a Trailways bus and two climbed aboard while the others followed in an automobile.

Police Give Chase

Meanwhile police learned that he was on the bus and took up the chase. Sat. 9-28-46

The bus had gone only a few miles when the two men stopped it in a small community; walked up to Dorsey and said:

"All right, n—r, here is where you get off."

Dorsey obeyed, and just as they were pushing him into the car the police arrived. The Haywood County sheriff said he did not know whether to expect further trouble, but hoped that the Sylva mob had cooled off.

Sylva is 20 miles from Waynesville.

34h

Knoxville. Tenn. Journal
Sept. 17, 1946

Police Alert For Negro's Lynch Mob

34h

WAYNESVILLE, N. C., Sept. 16 (UP)—Reinforced police tonight locked the doors of the Haywood County Courthouse and jail and took up positions to stand off an angry mob reported reforming in Sylva, N. C., 20 miles away, to march on the jail, remove a Negro war veteran, and try a second time to lynch him.

Scores of angry citizens were milling about the grounds of the courthouse building in which the jail is located. Many of them were muttering threats that they were going to take 24-year-old Paul Dorsey, Negro, from the jail. But Highway patrolmen, county police, sheriffs, and deputies warned them to keep away.

At Sylva, where William Jordan, 45-year-old truck driver, was beaten to death last night in the Negro section, a mob which dispersed earlier today after satisfying themselves that Dorsey was not in the Sylva jail was reported being organized again. Only tonight had the mob learned of the Negro's whereabouts.

The Waynesville police station had moved from its headquarters in the fire department to the court house.

Today the Haywood County police had frustrated an attempt to lynch the fugitive Negro when four white men abducted him from a bus and were about to drive a few miles back to Sylva and turn him over to the angry mob.

The mob earlier had gathered and marched on the Sylva jail, believing Dorsey had been arrested and confined there. When the Sylva sheriff let the mob in and they failed to find the Negro, the mob dispersed.

The mob closed in on the Sylva jail this morning, believing Dorsey was there. They threatened to tear down the jail if Dorsey was not turned over to them. The sheriff there allowed them to enter the jail and search it for Dorsey, who was wanted for questioning in the death of William Jordan. Jordan, 45-year-old truck driver, was beaten to death last night in the Negro section of Sylva.

Four white youths from Sylva, none of them identified, spotted the Negro as he boarded a Trailways bus. Two of them hurried to climb aboard the bus as it was pulling out of Sylva. The other two men followed the bus in their automobile. Police, meantime, learned the Negro was on the bus and took up the chase.

After the bus had gone a few miles, the would-be lynchers stopped it in a small community and the two youths walked up to Dorsey.

"All right, nigger," they said, "here's where you get off."

Dorsey, frightened, obeyed. The men dismounted from the bus and as they were entering the automobile in which the other two men were waiting, the police squad car drove up.

They surrendered the Negro to the officers, who took him to the Waynesville jail.

①-1 Second attempt

34h 1946

Tennessee

7346

Shoots Five; Six Police Cheat Mob

34h

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

MURFREESBORO, Tenn., Dec. 16—(UP)—Six policemen saved a crazed Negro from possible mob violence here Monday by putting him in the middle of a flying wedge and pushing their way through a crowd of 1,500 that had gathered after the Negro shot and wounded five white men.

The Negro, Tobe (Bud) Haynes, was rushed to the State Capital at Nashville, 30 miles away, for safekeeping in a state police car.

State police armed with sub-machine guns and military police with tear gas equipment stood by as patrolmen took the Negro away.

Haynes had walked into the Murfreesboro police station during the morning, armed with two pistols and a shotgun, and opened fire without warning. His action could not be explained. Eyewitnesses said it appeared the Negro "just went plain crazy."

Under the hail of fire, Patrolman Herbert McClanahan fell seriously wounded. Another bullet struck a brass button on the uniform of Police Chief Wash Powell and only left a bruise. Tues.

Haynes took refuge in a Negro house three blocks away. After barricading the doors, he withstood an hour's gun battle before tossing his pistol out a window and surrendering. 12-17-46

Before he gave up three other men—Sheriff Earl McKnight, Fire Chief B. B. Quarles and Ray Armstrong, a bystander—were injured slightly by bullets. Haynes also was slightly injured.

When Haynes stepped from the house he faced a crowd that had been attracted by the shooting and was growing by the minute.

But as the crowd began to surge forward toward the Negro, six officers stepped into position, forming a human ring with locked arms around Haynes.

The crowd parted as the officers and the Negro moved slowly through it to the Rutherford County jail.

Later, state troopers headed by Chief Lynn Bomar, former All-America football player, arrived on orders of Gov. McCord and moved him to Nashville.

A crowd of 500 had drifted to the county jail from the scene of the shooting and was milling around the front of the building, apparently in a more curious than belligerent mood, when Bomar and his men arrived.

As Haynes was led from the jail, state police, armed with sub-machine guns, watched the crowd and military police from a nearby air base were on hand with tear gas equipment.

'Lynching' Didn't Happen ... Police Were On the Job

PM New York, N.Y.

34h Tues 12-17-46

There was talk of lynching in Murfreesboro, Tenn., yesterday but there was no lynching because the police were on their toes. Bud Haynes, a mentally-befuddled Negro, walked into Police Headquarters with two pistols and blazed away for no apparent reason. Five men, including the police chief and the county sheriff, were wounded before Haynes took refuge in a vacant house three blocks away.

A crowd of some 1500 persons gathered around the house, held back by the danger of getting shot while Haynes exchanged more bullets with the police. Shortly, a State Police unit with sub-machine guns arrived, followed by a military police unit from a nearby airport with tear gas. A policeman shouted to Haynes that he would be protected if he gave himself up and he marched out with his hands raised.

Six policemen formed a close circle around Haynes and shoved their way through the crowd to the—jail. When the crowd dwindled, State Police Chief Lynn Bomar rushed the prisoner to Nashville for safe-keeping.

Lynch Threat Averted Through Minister's Efforts

Daily World

34h

Atlanta, Ga. Tenn.

NASHVILLE— (ANP)— A white Methodist minister was instumental in preventing the lynching of a Negro charged with murdering a prominent white citizen early last month, according to a disclosure made here last week by the department of general church school workers of the general board of education of the Methodist church.

The report has it that early last November, a member of the Rev. J. D McDavid's church was killed by a Negro. The killer escaped to a nearby swamp where he was captured the next morning by a civilian posse. No police officials were present and mob sentiment was strong for wreaking immediate vengeance. Sun. 12-8-46

Rev. McDavid joined the group when he learned of the capture, standing beside the car in which the suspect was held. With a few others, he managed to dissuade and stand off the would-be lynchers for 45 minutes until the sheriff arrived, to take him to the county jail, 30 miles away. The minister followed the sheriff's car for several miles, and being assured that he would drive safely with his prsoner, turned back to his home.

The name of the town was withheld at the minister's request, because 'the community is now glad the threat was averted and I think it should not suffer the embarrassment of publicity about it.".

Tennessean Saved From Crowd After Shooting

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

34h

Sat. 12-18-46

MURPHREESBORO, Tenn. — (SNS) — Tobe Haynes, who shot five white men, one of them fatally was saved from a mob here Monday by six policemen who formed a circle around him as a crowd surged forward toward him.

Haynes reportedly walked into the police station here Monday morning armed with two pistols and a shotgun and opened fire injuring Patrolman Herbert McClanahan, Sheriff Earl McKnight, Chief of Police Wash Powell Fire Chief B. B. Quarles and Ray Armstrong.

Taking refuge in a nearby house, Haynes barricaded the doors and withstood an hour's gun battle before he surrendered by tossing his gun out the window.

During the shooting a large crowd gathered outside the barricaded house. When Haynes emerged members of the crowd attempted to get to him but they were kept back by six policemen who formed a human ring around him and escorted him to the Rutherford county jail.

Chief Lynn Bomar and state troopers arrived under orders from Gov. McCord and took Haynes to Nashville. Military police were on hand with tear gas as Haynes and state troopers emerged from the jail at Rutherford.

7347

(1)

BACKGROUND ON THE BATTLE OF ATHENS

(34h)

Tennessee Ballot Box Rioting Was Revolution to Beat Ring

Tenn

GI Campaigner's Dramatic Plea Saved Deputies' Possible Lynching

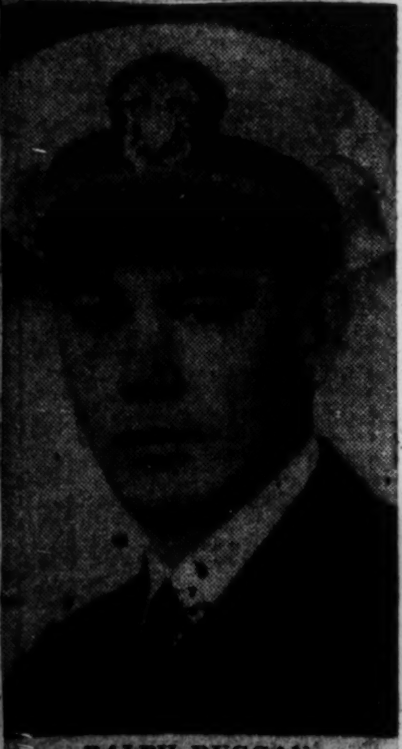
By GEORGE GOODWIN, Journal Staff Writer

ATHENS, Tenn., Aug. 3.—A three-man committee headed by a Methodist minister was in control of this Tennessee Valley city Saturday in the aftermath of a bloody battle in which some 250 ex-servicemen shot and dynamited their way to a complete victory over the old county political gang.

What happened here between 9 p. m. Thursday and sunset Friday was more than mob violence. It was a revolution—a revolution in which the better element of this community threw off a 10-year-old yoke of armed intimidation and corruption.

Saturday the best citizens of Athens, a city of 10,000 people located half way between Chattanooga and Knoxville, regretted the violence which sent 20 men to the hospital, but they declared it was the only way to beat the forces of Democratic political boss Paul Cantrell and Sheriff Pat Mansfield.

Ralph Duggan, a young lawyer



RALPH DUGGAN

and a former naval lieutenant-commander, who had managed the GI campaign, is credited with having prevented the possible lynching of some of the more hated of the deputies, hireling of the old faction, when they surrendered to the GI's to end the fighting. In a stirring speech he declared that the mission to seize the ballot boxes and insure a fair count had been accomplished. He begged for order, and George Woods, in his role of election manager, promised that the GI candidates would be certified as victors, although only five ballot boxes from outlying precincts had been counted. The GIs had a comfortable lead from them.

Mass Meeting

The Rev. Bernie Hampton, pastor of the Keith Memorial Methodist Church, chairman of the three-man committee which was elected in a Friday afternoon mass meeting to insure law and order, declared, "I am prouder of my community today than I have been at any time since I came here."

Another leading citizen stated: "Horrible as it was, it was the only way we could do it."

Roots of the controversy which led to Thursday night's riot are ten years old, running back to 1936 when Paul Cantrell, of Etowah and his Democratic ticket defeated the entrenched Republican forces which had held sway for a quarter of a century or more. That was a close election decided only by the last ballot box. There were charges then that the election had been stolen.

After three terms as sheriff, Cantrell was elected state senator in 1942, while his protege, George Woods, elected in 1940, was entrenching himself in the State Legislature. Last year Woods was speaker of the lower house.

Token Resistance

Pat Mansfield, formerly from Cartersville, Ga., succeeded his friend Cantrell as sheriff, and the plan this year was for Cantrell to return as sheriff.

Since 1940 the Republicans, as well as others of the county's better element, had made only token resistance at the polls.

The county seemed resigned to the high-handed tactics of the machine which took the ballot boxes away from the polling places to count the votes in privacy.

At each election, armed special deputies roamed the streets and proved obnoxious at the polls.

There were many rumors of other highhanded tactics by the sheriff's officers and other Cantrell men who had complete control of the county, including the election machinery.

Citizens were sick as they saw what they termed unfair arrests designed to provide fees for deputy sheriff pockets, watched the construction of unnecessary highways to benefit friends of the machine, and observed the operations of at least two gambling houses which ran wide open most of the time.

Republican Support

This year, with thousands of veterans back from service, they found hope in a G. I. nonpartisan group which put up a slate of five candidates, two Democrats and three Republicans, headed by 30-year-old Knox Henry, candidate for sheriff.

The Republicans put up no candidates as a party but threw their support behind the veteran ticket.

They campaigned as a group financed by the county's leading citizens. Their slogan was:

"Your vote will be counted as cast."

They promised to clean out the county ring and insure good, honest government without guns.

Amid reports that the sheriff's office had cost the county $100,000 in four years, young Henry pledged that he would take only $5,000 annual salary.

Thursday was election day, and the Cantrell forces had an estimated 150 special deputies imported from surrounding counties and from Georgia and North Carolina to patrol the streets and stand in the polling places.

A Negro, Tom Gillespie, who was respected by the entire town, was shot as he walked from the ballot box, and a deputy sheriff is being held in connection with the shooting. Gillespie is in fair condition at a local hospital.

When the polls closed at 4 p. m. two GI watchers in one precinct were thrown out by deputies, and another was arrested and put into the jail. A large crowd saw armed deputies take the ballot box from the precinct to the jail.

By 7 p. m. a large crowd was milling around the GI campaign headquarters, and the rumor grew that the Cantrell forces were preparing to count the ballots their own way in the jail.

Beat Up Deputies

Across the street a garage operator and his ex-pugilist brother had disarmed and beat up seven imported deputies who had come to arrest them on vague charges. Those seven later were loaded into automobiles and taken out into the surrounding farm country "so far they could not walk back by morning."

A young man in a Navy uniform is reported to have stimulated the crisis to the tense day when he picked up a rifle and declared to those surrounding the GI headquarters:

"I have faced a thousand bullets for democracy. I don't mind facing more to get those ballot boxes back."

That was all that was needed. As he walked toward the county jail two blocks from the center of town, a mob followed him.

A few minutes later rifles, Thompson submachine guns, and even one .50-caliber machine gun appeared as if by magic. (There is strong evidence that they came from the State Guard Armory here.)

Demanded Ballots

When the gang, made up mostly of ex-GI's, demanded the ballot boxes, they were refused, and the shooting began.

The first shots were fired at 9:10 p. m., and six hours later a force of some 50 deputies who had been besieged in the jail surrendered, about a dozen of their number had wounds inflicted by the accurate fire from an estimated 2,000 ex-GIs who fired from behind trees, automobiles, and other cover near the jail.

Meanwhile a mob of at least 1,000 gathered out of range to watch the show.

Four sticks of dynamite expertly tossed to the jail porch by a former Army demolition expert brought the deputies out of jail with their hands in the air.

With them came three GIs who had been trapped in the building when the shooting started.

Marched Around Square

The deputies, with their arms still in the air, were marched around the town square and locked in their own jail. About 1:07 a. m. Friday, the onlookers, who had taken no part in the fight, felt the mob spirit, and then attacked 14 automobiles owned by the deputies.

Children, eight and 10 years old joined in the destruction of those machines. One was burned. Others were destroyed with axes. The damage to the cars was estimated at $30,000. Damage to the jail during the firing and dynamiting was put at $7,500.

The mob was out of hand, and the entire city was in danger of mass destruction when the GI leaders in an attempt to quell the disturbance addressed the mob and declared that the deputies were to be released from the jail and guaranteed safe conduct to their homes. The excitement of this transfer diverted the mob's attention, and is credited with preventing further violence at that time.

TENNESSEE

Two Stories

Time, [illegible]

There were two Negroes in the city jail at Mount Pleasant, Tenn., and there was a mob outside. That was enough to set the news wires chattering. Out came the railroad type and the exciting radio bulletins. Soon the story began to trickle in.

34h Mon.

It ran this way: the Negroes had been caught trying to ram a handkerchief down a white man's throat. The white man said he was being beaten and robbed. The police chief of Mount Pleasant said he had got there just in time, or the white man would have been killed. The Negroes had been kicked and pummeled by an angry group of vengeful whites, had been saved from immediate lynching by being hustled off to jail. But a menacing mob was forming outside, and everybody knew what that meant. 10-28-46

Then came more excited bulletins: state highway patrolmen had got the Negroes away from the mob. They had paused with them in Columbia, but there was no safety there—the white folks were still on edge, remembering the ugly outbreak in Mink Slide last spring (TIME, March 11). So the Negroes were taken to safe haven in Nashville. Many of the people of the Bluegrass Bowl and the Highland Rim felt better because a lynching had been averted. Chicago, Ill.

The Truth Is Slow. It had, and it was well that it had, for the real facts in the case were ugly: Time magazine

Henry Bone, a white restaurant keeper from Waverly, had set out in his 1946 car on a drunken spree. At the wheel was "Blue" Pearson, his chauffeur for 15 years. Beside Pearson sat Roy Lee Johnson, who also had worked for Bone. Both, in the words of Mount Pleasant's white folks, were "good niggers." 10-28-46 - Mon

When Pearson drove into a filling station for gas, Bone found that he was out of whiskey. He yelled for more. Then he put on an act which he had used before: he shrieked that he was being beaten and robbed, then stuffed a handkerchief into his mouth. Scared, Pearson and Johnson drove off in a hurry (with Bone still in the back seat), were soon overtaken, dragged from the car and beaten by the hastily formed mob.

It had been front-page news when the mob was forming. Next day in the Nashville *Tennessean* the item reporting that the Negroes were innocent appeared on page 31.

There's a Lesson For Someone Here

New York, N.Y. PM (34h)
Sun. 10-20-46

Tennessee citizens, who formed a mob outside the jail at Mt. Pleasant, Tenn., threatening two Negroes accused of robbing a white man, knew today that the two prisoners were innocent of any wrong-doing.

(34h) Mon

Authorities spirited the prisoners out of Mt. Pleasant jail to Columbia, 12 miles away, then to Nashville, to avoid another racial "incident" such as the Columbia riots of last February. At Nashville, it was announced the Negroes had been released.

The policemen who arrested the two men thought they were trying to rob Henry Bone, a white man, while he was under the influence of liquor. It developed that they were employes of Bone, trying to take him home in his car.

NEGROES REMOVED FROM MOB IN SOUTH

The Times

Officers Start to Nashville With 2 From Town Near Columbia After 50 Gather at Jail

New York, N.Y.

34h

MOUNT PLEASANT, Tenn., Oct. 17 (AP)—Two Negroes were started for Nashville in custody of Maury County officers late today after a crowd of white men described by Police Chief Gordon Poore as "a mob" gathered about the City Hall during questioning of the Negroes about an incident involving themselves and a white man.

The Negroes first were removed to Columbia, Maury County seat, twelve mlies from Mount Pleasant, where County Sheriff Flo Fleming took charge of the mand started for Nashville.

Columbia itself was the scene of a racial clash last Feb. 25, but John W. Finney, editor of The Columbia Daily Herald, said that all remained quiet during the temporary stop of the prisoners there this afternoon. Fri. 10-18-46

"It's a mob and they want the Negroes," Police Chief Poore said here as the crowd began gathering in midafternoon about the city hall where the jail is.

The assemblage, fifty to seventy-five men, began dissolving an hour later when it was announced that the Negroes had been taken out of town.

Chief Poore said the Negroes were taken into custody after what he described as an attempt to rob Henry Bone, a 44-year-old white man, of $60.

He said the two were arrested as they were riding about town in an automobile belonging to Bone. He said that Bone was "drunk." The Negroes, he said, were trying to "ram" a handkerchief down Bone's throat.

The three men involved are from Waverly, Tenn. Sheriff T. R. Westbrook said at Waverly that Bone, who runs a cafe, left Waverly at daybreak today and that his car was being driven by a Negro named "Blue" Pierson. He added that Pierson drove Bone's car frequently.

The Negroes arrested here were booked as Roy Lee Johnson and "Blue" Hogan. No charges were lodged against them immediately.

Mone remained at Mount Pleasant early tonight. No charges were placed against him.

New Lynch Mob In Maury County

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

MOUNT PLEASANT, Tenn., Oct. 18.—A lynch mob of 75 Maury County men gathered here before the City Hall late Wednesday during police questioning of two Negroes from nearby Waverly who were arrested while driving the car of a white man. Sat. 10-19-46

34h

This Maury County town is 12 miles from the county seat, Columbia, scene last Feb. 25 of a mass attack on the Negro community.

Mount Pleasant police chief Gordon Poore, who described the Wednesday night crowd as "a mob and they want the Negroes," succeeded in removing the arrested men, Roy Lee Johnson and B. Hogan, to Columbia and then on to Nashville. No charges have been placed against them but they are still being held.

Sheriff T. R. Westbrook of Waverly, who knows the men, said the car they had been driving belonged to Henry Bone, Waverly cafe owner. Sheriff Westbrook added Bone's car had been frequently driven by Hogan and Johnson.

Lynch Mob Thwarted

PM

New York, N.Y. 10-18-46

34h Fri.

Two Negroes allegedly involved in an incident yesterday with a white man at Mt. Pleasant, Tenn., were removed from the local jail and sent to Nashville when a mob gathered. Mt. Pleasant, a phosphate mining town of 5000, is 12 miles from Columbia, scene of racial disorders last February which resulted in the recent trial at which 23 of 25 Negroes were acquitted.

Police Chief Gordon Poore of Mt. Pleasant said he became suspicious when he saw two Negroes driving a car which he knew belonged to Henry Bone of Waverly, Tenn. Officers who caught up with the car said the two—one of them identified as Bone's chauffeur—were attempting to "ram" a handkerchief down Bone's throat. A later examination showed, Poore said, that Bone was "drunk," but no charge was placed against him.

A crowd started to gather around City Hall while the two were being questioned. "It's a mob and they want the Negroes," Poore said. No violence was attempted and the two prisoners were started to Columbia, and then to Nashville. without incident.

Jennings Perry

PM New York, N.Y.

Stern Chase

34h

The little town of Mt. Pleasant lies at the edge of the rich and lovely Bluegrass Bowl of middle Tennessee, where the Bluegrass ends, as if cut by scissors, at the foot of the poor-soil hills that are known as the Highland Rim. Mt. Pleasant is only a dozen miles from Columbia, Maury County seat, much in the public eye this year as the result of the February racial disturbances and the trials that followed.

Perry

The new mob story broke in Mt. Pleasant one afternoon this week in time to make bulletin matter in the Nashville evening papers. Two Negroes, the public was informed in heavy type, had been seized in the act of attempting to rob a white man in his car. Mt. Pleasant Police Chief Gordon Poore said he reached the scene just as the Negroes were trying to "ram" a handkerchief down the white man's throat, and gave his opinion that the man would have been killed if the law had not come up when it did. 10-20-46

A mob had gathered immediately; the Negroes had been rushed off for safekeeping, first to Columbia, then to Nashville.

These tidings went out over the wires. At their supper tables, the people of middle Tennessee shook their heads over this new proof that the Negroes were getting completely "out of hand." Some thought unhappily of the mob, and the night coming, and was all that to be gone through with again?

In the morning, the truth came through. The Negroes had been released. One was the white man's chauffeur the other his companion. There had been no attempt at robbery or assault. The white man had been howling drunk. He had stuffed the handkerchief in his own mouth. The Negroes simply had been trying to take care of him. He might indeed have been killed if they had not tried, since they were preventing him from reeling out of his car, which had stopped on a high viaduct.

I am writing this because, though the truth has emerged, it may not have traveled as fast and as far as it should. The mob scare story was splashed on the front page: the truth made Page 31 in Nashville's papers the morning after. All of us have seen too many instances in which the scare, launched with wings upon the ready field of our fascination with impending violence, is never quite overtaken by the pedestrian and unspectacular fact. I would like to give the truth, in this instance, a boost.

For, to my mind, the lesson-value of the lucky avoidance of what might have been another ghastly tragedy should at least equal that of the tragedy that is not foregone. I have no way of knowing whether the members of the mob that surged together at Mt. Pleasant now recognize themselves for the fools they were—or whether those who so quickly read into the false report a confirmation of their cherished prejudices have been shaken at all by their demonstrated error.

But this is certainly so: that just as the sane and just verdict that recently dispelled the angry Smythes that sprang up around the Columbia incident should have shamed the hotheads whose native bias automatically supplied those myths with "substance," so the speedier pricking of the dangerous rumor-bubble at nearby Mt. Pleasant should effect a caution and emblazon a point.

What had got "out of hand" in both cases, obviously was not the Negroes' conduct, but the white man's imagination.

Mob Pickets Jail Where Negroes Held

The News Birmingham Ala. Fri. 10-18-46

34h

MT. PLEASANT, Tenn., Oct. 18 —(AP)—Two Negroes, brought to Nashville as a safety measure by Maury County officers, were free today after telling police that in no way were they responsible for an incident involving themselves and a white man here yesterday.

The Negroes were placed in Mt. Pleasant city jail after what Police Chief Gordon Poore said was an attempt to rob Henry Bone, 44-year-old white man. A "mob" assembled in front of the jail while the men were being questioned, Poore said.

They then were removed to Columbia, Tenn., 12 miles distant and the scene of a racial clash last Feb. 25, and from there Maury County Sheriff Flo Fleming sent them to Nashville.

Mob Almost Took Lives of Men Who Saved Boss

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 10-26-46

34h

MT. PLEASANT, Tenn. — A hate-crazed mob barely averted the lynching of two completely innocent men here on Oct. 17 when it later turned out that instead of "attempting to rob" their white employer, they actually saved his life while he was in an intoxicated condition.

The men, "Blue" Hogan and Roy Lee Johnson, according to Police Chief Gordon Poore, were arrested and lodged in jail after he and other officers became suspicious and trailed them two blocks from the public square.

Their suspicion was aroused by the fact that the police chief saw the men driving about the business section in a new 1946 automobile which he understood belonged to the men's employer,

Henry Bone, white, 44.

Charged with Robbery

When the officers stopped the men at the intersection of South Main and Merchant Sts., they saw Bone in the car, "drunk."

The police chief charged that the men were trying to "ram" a handkerchief down Bone's throat, in "an attempt to rob him of $80."

The men were quickly lodged in jail while the drunken employer was taken to the City Hall. No charges were placed against him.

Mob Calls for Men

A mob gathered immediately, the chief of police reported, and asked for the men, who were rushed to Columbia, scene of a racial clash last Feb. 25, and later taken to Nashville by Maury County officers for safe-keeping.

But the real truth came to light Friday morning, when the men

were released. Afro-American

It developed that they were employees of Bone who runs a cafe in Waverly. The three left this town early on Oct. 17, with "Blue" Hogan as the chauffeur and Roy Johnson as a companion.

Saved Employer's Life

There was no attempt by the men to rob or assault their employer, who, in a state of drunkenness, had stuffed the handkerchief in his own mouth.

When the officers caught up with the trio, the men were trying to extract the handkerchief from Bone's mouth.

He might have been killed, since his faithful employees were preventing him from reeling out of his car which had stopped on a high viaduct. Baltimore, Md.

Mt. Pleasant is a phosphate mining town of some 5,000 people, located in Maury County, 12 miles from Columbia, and 62 miles south of Nashville.

Perry Warns Whites

The mob of between 50 and 75 persons dispersed an hour after they were told the men had been

taken out of town. Sat. 10-26-46

Commenting on "what might have been another ghastly tragedy" in Tennessee, Jennings Perry, chairman of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, said in his column in the newspaper PM:

"Just as the sane and just verdict that recently dispelled the angry myths that sprang up around the Columbia incident should have shamed the hotheads whose native bias automatically supplied those myths with "substance," so the speedier pricking of the dangerous rumor-bubble at Mt. Pleasant should effect a caution and emblazon a point.

"What had got 'out of hand' in both cases, obviously was not the colored people's conduct, but the white man's imagination."

White Minister Prevents Lynching

34h

The Afro-American

Tenn.

NASHVILLE—A white Methodist minister was instrumental in preventing the lynching of a man charged with murdering a prominent white citizen early last month, the General Board of Education of the Methodist Church, heard here, last week.

The report has it that early last November, a member of the Rev. J. D. McDavid's church was killed and the suspect was captured in a swamp by a mob.

The Rev. Mr. McDavid managed to dissuade and stand off the would-be lynchers for 45 minutes, until the sheriff arrived to take the suspect to the county jail, 30 miles away.

34h 1946 Texas

7348

Bus Passenger Kills Texas Cop Over JC

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

TYLER, Tex. (ANP)—An unidentified colored man, thought to be a veteran, fatally stabbed a white policeman, who tried to jim crow him on a bus, here, last week, after the officer had shot him.

34h

A-1

Fleeing home wounded, the man armed himself and fought off a posse of 10 until he was wounded again, before submitting to capture. A cordon of 30 officers twice kept white mobs from removing him from the hospital and lynching him, officials say. Sat. 7-13-46

6/6

Afro-American

Dixie Doings

By J. FARLEY RAGLAND

Afro-American

A near-lynching was averted near Valentine, Va., a few days ago by the quick thinking and courage of the Manning family. Some sharp words had passed between a Manning boy and a bus driver. When Manning attempted to get off the bus, a white lad of about 15 secretly handed the driver a gun. He prodded Manning in the stomach until a brother, sensing danger, crept up on the driver and held him. A third boy then took the gun and the fight then is said to have ensued.

Mr. Ragland

6-1-46

A mob, allegedly representing members as the law, came to the Manning home the next day. Their credentials seemed "fishy," and they were not permitted to enter. They returned again in two cars, and with guns and sticks, but were prevented from entering the house to search for Manning.

Later, they picked up another lad who had been in the bus fracas. They mistreated and threatened him, but he finally eluded them, and ran for safety toward a crowded church-gathering.

Baltimore, Md.

He was shot at by one of the members of the mob, and the bullet narrowly missed a little girl's head.

The members of the mob-group were apprehended, later, and are now awaiting action of a grand jury trial.

①

Copy (1) 34h

Lynchings Prevented, 1946

Date	State & Place	Charge	No. of Persons		Method of Prevention			
666			Negro	White	Persons Removed	Guards Augmented	Force Used	Other
Feb. 25-46	Columbus, Tenn.	White man knocked through plate glass window by son of Negro woman he had just slapped, struck, or kicked.	2 (woman & man)		X			
Mar. 30-46	Holly Springs, Miss.	Car struck and killed 8-yr.-old white girl.	1		X			
June 1-46	Valentine, Va.	Altercation with bus driver	1					X Saved by famil
July 29-46	New York City	Waylaying a young woman and felling her with an 11 lb. brick	1		X			
Aug. 3-46	Lake County, Fla.	Gave affidavits that the Lake County sheriff had fractured his skull while arresting him in 1945.	1					X Remove to N. Y. by WLD
Aug. 31-46	Pin Point, Ga. (near Savannah)	Suspected of killing and raping a white woman	[illegible]	1	X			
Aug. 8-46	Crowley, La.	Altercation with white man	1		X			
Aug. 24-46	East Baton Rouge, La.	Wounded a 7-year old white girl while firing at storekeeper who refused him further credit.	1		X			
Sept. 17-46	Perry, La.	Driver of car which killed a white woman.	1			X		
Sept. 21-46	Jackson, Miss.	Leader in the battle of Sullivan's Hollow in Smith County where 4 peace officers were wounded.	1		X			
[illegible] (1), 1946	Hattiesburg, Miss	For not saying "Yes Sir" to ticket agent.	1		X			

Lynchings Prevented, 1946 (Con't)

Date	State & Place	Charge	No. of Persons		Method of Prevention			
			Negro	White	Persons Removed	Guards Augmented	Forced Used	Other
Sept. 31-46	Jacksonville, Fla.	Attempted rape of 13 yr. old boy on 5-yr. old white girl.	1					X Saved by Minister
Sept. 29-46	Balsam, N. C.	Killed a white man in a fight at Sylva, N. C. for insulting the girl he was with.	1		X	X		
Oct. 10-46	Mt. Pleasant, Tenn.	Thought to be robbing a white man. Later they were found taking their employer home.	2		X			
Oct. 29-46	Nashville, Ga.	Suspected in the death of a 70-year old white man.	3			X		
Nov. 2-46	Frankfort, Ky.	Assault, battery and resisting an officer	2		X			
July 13-46	Tyler, Tex.	Stabbed a policeman who tried to Jim Crow him on a bus.	1			X		
Sept. 19-46	Tallahassee, Fla.	Fatal accident charge in which white woman was killed.	1			X		
Dec.16-46	Murphreysboro, Tenn.							
Aug 17-46	Meridian, Miss.	For striking a white woman with a brick or some other instrument	1		X			
Dec. 23-46	Baltimore, Md.	Fatally injuring a Negro in an auto-mobile accident.		1	X			
Oct. 29-46	Nashville, Ga.	Suspected of murder	3		X	X		

Promising Young Artist Alleged Placed Behind Bar

Nigerian Spokesman
Onitsha Fri. 6-28-46

ABA, June 27.— Possibly, the most promising young artist in town, Abel Nzekwe of 12, Pound Road, has been placed behind the bars.

341

Charges brought against him for offences, which are as mean as they are aggravating, have shocked all who know the rascally Opobo youth.

Africa

They include improper assult on a girl of only ten years old.

An ex-student of St Bartholomew's School, Enugu, Abel, who from the outset had carved a niche for himself in the realm of undeveloped profession.

Anniston Assault Case Continues

The News
Birmingham, Ala.

ANNISTON, Ala., Aug. 21—(AP)—Lee Curtis Williams, 19-year-old Negro, stood trial today in a courtroom cleared of spectators on charges of raping a white girl. 34i

In the same court yesterday, another 19-year-old Negro, Leroy Scott, was found guilty of the same charge by a jury nd ordered put to death in the electric chair. 8-21-46

The complaining witness in each case is a 19-year-old girl from Louisville, Miss., identified Williams and Scott as two of three Negroes who accosted her and her escort as they were seated in a parked car. She said she and the white man were overpowered by the Negroes.

Both Negroes pleaded innocent. Scott, however, did not take the stand in his own behalf.

Negro Is Hunted After Assault At Sylacauga

News
Birmingham, Ala.
Mon. 7-29-46

Bloodhounds On Trail As Mother Attacked, Her Escort Beaten

SYLACAUGA, Ala., July 29—A county-wide search with bloodhounds was being made today for a Negro man who criminally attacked a 38-year-old Sylacauga divorcee, mother of a young girl, after beating her escort in the brick yard settlement here last night, Chief of Police J. A. Cleghorn declared. 34i

Chief Cleghorn identified the woman as Mrs. Lee Summers, 38, who resides at a rooming house at 300 North Main Street, and said her escort was Oscar Pettus, 38, who lives at the same place.

The chief said Pettus, who was beaten over the head, suffered a broken arm. He was taken to the Drummond Frazier Hospital at Mignon. Mrs. Sumners, Chief Cleghorn said, was treated at Sylacauga Hospital and taken home.

Bloodhounds from Speigner Prison were brought into play last night, Chief Cleghorn said, but the Negro, described as being six feet tall, weighing between 180 and 190 pounds, around 38 years old, and having short hair and thick lips, had not been apprehended today, the chief declared. Mon. 7-29-46

He said Mrs. Sumners, who is divorced from her husband, was walking with Mr. Pettus in what is known as the brick yard settlement about 7:15 p.m. yesterday. He reported the Negro, said to have been wearing overalls and a jumper, knocked Mr. Pettus in the head and attacked Mrs. Sumners, mother of a 12-year-old daughter.

Negro Admits Attack On 14-Year-Old Girl

Item News

PRICHARD, Ala., July 6—(AP)—Circuit Solicitor Carl M. Booth said today a 20-year-old Negro had signed confessions that he raped a 14-year-old white schoolgirl and attempted to rape three other white women. Sat. 7-6-46 Ala. 34i

Bound over to the Grand Jury by City Judge W. I. Davis, he was taken to Kilby Prison for safekeeping. The Grand Jury does not meet until October. The solicitor identified the Negro as Samuel Taylor. B'ham, Ala.

Negro At Childersburg Held On Attack Charge

Times-Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala. Sun. 9-22-46

CHILDERSBURG, Ala., Sept. 21—Night Policeman A. L. Brazeale, Childersburg, said today that Willie Lee Caldwell, 25, Negro, of Childersburg, is being held in jail at Talladega in connection with an attempted assault on a 16-year-old white girl Thursday night. 34i

Brazeale said the girl, employed at a Childersburg cafe, was enroute home at Harpersville at midnight Thursday when the Negro man approached her at the bus station and later attempted to attack her.

Waitress Assaulted On Springville Road By White Man, Negro

The News
Birmingham, Ala.

Hysterical Woman Tells Of Attacks; She Struck Driver In Face And Fled

34i Ala.

A white matron, who told police she was a waitress at the Municipal Airport restaurant, appeared at police headquarters early this morning weeping and exhausted, and informed officers she had been criminally assaulted by an unidentified white man and Negro last night. Tues. 11-19-46

Police said the woman, who went almost hysterically, said she had accepted a lift from the white man driving the auto "to town" when she got off from work last night.

After entering the auto, officers said the woman told them she noticed the Negro seated on the rear seat.

Instead of driving her toward town, the woman told police, the driver headed in the direction of Springville and about seven miles out on the Springville Highway, she was pulled on the rear seat by the Negro and criminally assaulted, she said. Later, she said, the white man also assaulted her.

The woman, officers said, told them she picked up a bottle of cleaning fluid she was taking home and struck the white man in the face with it as she jumped from the auto and fled.

She said she alternately walked and ran down the highway for several miles before she was picked up by a truck driver who brought her to East Lake where she rode a streetcar to town.

The woman, police said, told them her husband was living with his relatives near Shannon and that she was living in Norwood with her 4-year-old son.

Police said the highway patrol would be asked to assist in the investigation.

Hearing Is Waived In Assault Cases

The News
Birmingham, Ala.

A 22-year-old Negro, charged with assault with intent to ravish two North Birmingham white women in October, waived preliminary hearing before County Judge G. C. Boner yesterday afternoon, and the cases will go to the Grand Jury. 34i Ala.

The Negro, Milton Lizana, of 1020 24th Street, North, is being held in County Jail, under $4,000 bond.

Lizana was arrested Nov. 4 by city police who had been especially assigned to the North Birmingham area because of numerous reports of attack attempts there. He was placed in a lineup with four other Negroes at the City Jail and there identified by two women, one 20 and the other 44, as the man who had attempted to attack them.

The 20-year-old woman told police that Lizana "grabbed" her on North 23rd Street at about 7 p.m. Oct. 19. She said he ran when a passing car threw its headlights on them. Fri. 12-6-46

The 44-year-old woman reported a similar incident at 11th Avenue and North 25th Street at about 10 p.m. Oct. 28.

The arrest was made by City Officers O. V. Vance, J. T. Walthall, B. L. Quinn and H. A. Fincher. The case was turned over to City Detectives J. T. Howell and J. R. Phillips for further investigation.

Alleged Kilby Escapee Attacks White Woman

The Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

BIRMINGHAM, Dec. 10.—(AP)—A 43-year-old housewife was attacked today by a Negro who told her he was an escaped convict from Kilby Prison. 34i

The State Highway Patrol and deputies from the sheriff's office here were combing a wooded area in northeast Jefferson County for the Negro. Wed. 12-11-46 Ala.

The woman, the wife of a coal miner, said the Negro came to the door to ask for something to eat and then forced his way in. He slashed her hand with a butcher knife, she said, and forced her to accompany him outside.

After the attack on her, the Negro tried to attack her 16-year-old daughter, she told Deputies T. W. Docherty and D. V. Rickles.

34i 1946 California

7353

Dixie Mob Perils Three In West Coast 'Rape' Case

Defender

34i

EL CENTRO, Calif. — Southern migrants in this area are whipping up feeling for a Dixie "lynching bee" as a result of an alleged rape-kidnap charge against three Negroes.

Facing court action on the charges in Imperial county jail here are Prentice Alderson, 28; Bryant Thompson, 27; and Milton Foster, 27. Each denies the charges of rape and kidnap of Phyllis Mattox, 27-year-old white woman. However, they do admit having sex relations with her for a price.

According to the prisoners, they picked up Miss Mattox after she thumbed a ride on a local street. She asked them to take her home, but changed her mind later and suggested some secluded spot for a "date" at $5 each, they said. They accepted, paid her the $5, and forgot the incident until they were arrested.

6-8-46

Chicago Ill.

Seek Fair Trial

Fears of defense attorney, Crispus Wright that the men would not receive a fair trial were verified when a secret investigation revealed the anti-Negro sentiment of the local white population. A trial here was postponed Wednesday and he is now trying to obtain a change of venue.

Threats against Wright's life have been reported from "rebels" as they are called here. Most rabid hatred of Negroes was found in vicinities where there are few colored, Mexicans and Hindus, reported Ray Lunday of Pasadena, who conducted the investigation on public sentiment regarding the case.

Chicago

The wartime labor shortage brought large numbers of "rebel" white southerners to the Imperial Valley towns of Indio, Calipatri, El Centro, and Mexicali. Of the 11,000 persons here, 1,353 are Negroes. The El Centro daily newspaper has contributed to the mob fever since the beginning of the case, observers stated.

Illinois

Governor Eyes Developments

Large groups of Negroes were brought here more than 20 years ago from Oklahoma and Texas to work on the cotton farms in Imperial Valley. Until the migration of southern whites, no racial hatred had been apparent. Negro children frequently attended schools with white children, but separate schools were maintained for Mexicans.

The governor and state's attorney are said to be interested in developments. Meanwhile, Attorney Wright is still trying to get a change of venue. It has been considered unwise to free the men on bond in view of the anti-Negro spirit being whipped up.

Women foil rapists; man arrested

Tribune

Calif

34i

Two women escaped would-be rapists with minor injuries Sunday night and a man was arrested by police in connection with one of the outrages.

Mrs. Clothilde McKinney, 27, of 1536 E. 42nd st., told police she was driving home early Sunday morning, and as she made a boulevard stop at Vernon and San Pedro pl., a man jumped into her car. He forced her to drive around the block several times, police allege, and attempted to rape her.

Sat. 6-15-46

Mrs. McKinney resisted him, suffering a badly twisted arm and bruises on her leg. When she screamed for help, he jumped from the car. Police arrested Chester Williams, 27, of 267 E. 49th st., and held him for questioning.

Los Angeles

Mrs. Helen B. Brown, 28, of 1227 E. 58th dr., was attacked on Central avenue between 46th and 47th st. She told police the unidentified assailant dragged her into an alley and struck her in the mouth, demanding she submit to him.

California

When her screams attracted attention of passerbys, the man fled. She identified him as about six feet tall, slender and approximately 25 years old. Mrs. Brown suffered a loosened tooth and lacerations about the mouth.

Sat. 6-15-46

Taxi driver held in "jail bait" rape case

Tribune

A "Free Taxi" which allegedly stopped along the way to allow its operator to rape a 16-year-old girl customer, was the cause of Raymond Jones, 26, of 2530 Compton ave., being held on a statutory rape charge today.

34i

Calif

But original charges of forceful rape were dropped when Crispus Wright, Jones' attorney, proved to municipal judge Joseph Chamber's satisfaction that force wasn't necessary. Sat. 6-15-46

The alleged victim was a Metropolitan high school girl, who lives on the Westside. Los Angeles

According to her story, Jones offered her a free ride. She admitted she had known Jones previously as "Sleepy"; but instead of being sleepy on the night of the alleged crime, she said, was most aggressive and he stopped the cab near 32nd and Boaz st. and attacked her. California

Jones, on the stand in the preliminary hearing, admitted the act, but denied he had not paid for it. It was alleged the girl had a record of previous arrests.

Sat. 6-15-46

Police admit they clubbed man nabbed on suspicion of rape

The Tribune

Los Angeles, Calif.

Sat. 9-21-46

34i

Police who arrested Rainey Rathos, 21, of 343 S. San Pedro, on suspicion of attempted rape, late last week, said he was "unruly" and admitted clubbing him "in order to subdue him". Rathos, police said, was accused by Miss Gloria Ramirez, 22, of 1467 W. 50th st., white, of grabbing her on Main st. near 5th.

Calif.

Her screams attracted D. C. Bellante, of 631 S. Main, who held on to Rathos until police arrived, the officers reported.

Mob Fever Rises Over Alleged Rape Charge Against Negroes

The Informer

Houston Texas

,EL CENTRO, Cal.—(ANP) — An alleged rape-kidnap charge against three Negroes has precipitated mob fever among many of the local white southern migrants, some of them even advocating a Dixie-line lynching.

34i

Awaiting court action on the charges in Imperial county jail here are Prentice Alderson, 28; Bryant Thompson, 27, and Milton Foster, 27. All three of the men have denied charges they raped and kidnapped Miss Phyllis Mattox, a 27-year-old white woman, but do admit having sex relations with her for a price. Sat-6-8-46

The men claimed they picked Miss Mattox up after she thumbed a ride as they were driving along one of the local streets. She asked them to take her home but when seated comfortably in the automobile changed her mind and suggested some secluded spot for a "date" at $5 each, they said. They accepted, paid her the $5, and forgot the incident until arrested.

Anxiety against the possibility of a fair trial here had been expressed before last week by Atty. Crispus Wright, the men's lawyer, and was verified by a secret investigation on the anti-Negro temper of the local white population. A trial was postponed here Wednesday and he is now trying to secure a change of venue.

Houston Texas

Threats against Atty. Wright's life have been reported from lynch-minded whites, or 'rebels' as they are called here. Most intense anti-Negro hatred was checked in vicinities where there are few Negroes, Mexicans and Hindus, reported Ray Lunday of Pasadena, who conducted the investigation on public sentiment regarding the case.

A large group of 'rebel' white southerners moved to the Imperial valley towns of Indio, Calipatri, El Centro and Mexicali during the war-time labor shortage. Of the 11,000 persons here, 1,353, are Negroes. The El Centro daily, a local newspaper, with a county circulation of 11,000, is responsible for mob spirit and anti-Negro fever that has gripped this community since the rape-kidnap case was first reported.

6-8-46

Large groups of Negroes were brought here more than 20 years ago from Oklahoma and Texas to work on the cotton farms in Imperial Valley. Until the war brought southern whites in large numbers here, no racial clashes had developed nor had any great degree of anti-Negro sentiments been expressed as is common in most southern communities. Negro children frequently attended schools with white children, but separate schools were maintained for Mexicans.

Houston Texas

6-8-46

Developments here are said to be under the watchful eye of the governor and state's attorney. Meanwhile, Atty. Wright is still trying to secure a change of venue in order to conduct a fair trial for the three accused men. An effort to obtain freedom on bond for the men in face of treacherous anti-Negro sentiment is considered unwise.

Girl, 21, tells rape try

Tribune

Los Angeles

Mildred Jessie, attractive 21-year-old ex-Jefferson high school girl, took the witness stand in municipal court this week to tell how Archie Mimms, 27, tried to rape her.

34i

Tribune

Calif.

Miss Jessie said that several weeks ago Mimms followed her as she was going to a playground near the 1500 block on E. 32nd st., then slugged her and tried to attack her. Mimms was held, and will be arraigned July 24 in superior court. He gave his address as the veteran's hospital at Sawtelle.

Eastside white reports raping

The Tribune

Los Angeles, Calif.

34i

Mrs. Helen Conglegon, 32, white housewife of 342 E. 57th st., told police Monday morning that an unknown Negro raped her in her home Sunday night after threatening her with a knife. She said the man ransacked her house and threatened to kill her elderly mother, Mrs. Anita Dickins. Sat. 8-3-46

Calif.

Three women are rape toll for the week

Los Angeles Tribune

Los Angeles, Calif.

Three women were rape victims in various parts of the city this week and police have two of the men accused of the attacks in custody. Sat. 4-20-46

34i

Arrested was Edgar Thomas, 23, of 1317 E. 54th st., who is charged with attacking Mrs. Elsie Brandon, 31, of 1628 E. 52nd st., a beautician. Mrs. Brandon said Thomas broke into her apartment while she was cooking supper, tore off her clothing and attacked her. He took her purse, containing $5 when he fled, she said.

Calif.

Allegedly caught in the act of beating Mrs. Mary Reed, 48, in a chicken coop at the rear of 1235 E. 23rd st., was Ernest L. Daniels, 23, 936 E. 31st st.

Police were called by Mrs. Mary Williams, of the 1235 address, who said a man was beating a woman behind her house. When the officers arrived, they said they saw Daniels tearing off Mrs. Reed's clothes.

Taken to the hospital, Mrs. Reed was treated for a possible skull fracture and other injuries. She was unable to recall whether she had been raped.

At a preliminary hearing Wednesday, Daniels declared, through his lawyer, that he had been with Mrs. Reed all day and no forcible rape had taken place.

Unapprehended was the thug who attacked Mrs. Almeda Fleming, 42, of 966 E. 45th st. Mrs. Fleming said the man, who is believed to have been living in an abandoned car at the rear of her home, entered her home early one morning and threatened her with an ice pick. Sat 7-20-46

"Raped" red-head can't remember; "assailants" free

The Tribune

Los Angeles, Calif.

Red-headed Mrs. Mabel Miller, white drug store clerk, who last week told police five Negroes had kidnapped and raped her, suddenly "couldn't remember" when confronted by a district attorney's office investigation this Monday.

34i

Deputy district attorney A. S. Colgrove, who grilled the woman for over an hour, said she told him she "couldn't remember anything after leaving the C[illegible] avenue night spot from which last week she claimed she was kidnapped."

Calif.

Her original story to police was that a Negro special officer separated her from her boyfriend, A. W. Box, white, of 706 Oakford drive, when she and Box were "doing something naughty." She claimed later a gang of five men forced her into a car, and one of them held her overnight and raped her.

Two men were arrested and held for several days on suspicion of being involved, but after Mrs. Miller's unsatisfactory talk, Colgrove said they would be freed.

Wac bites man

Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.

in attack attempt

34i Calif.

When she bit the hand which tried to overpower her, ex-Wac Helen L. Marsh, 22, white, of 6026 Makee ave., escaped unharmed Monday night. Sat. 12-14-46

Alighting from a Pacific Electric car at 60th and Long Beach blvd., Miss Marsh said she was accosted by a Negro who followed her along the tracks and grabbed her by the mouth.

He threatened to kill her if she made an outcry, but she bit his ingers until he released her, Miss Marsh said. He snatched her ourse, containing $16.00 and Army ischarge papers, but left behind a rey felt hat which has been turned over to police.

34i 1946

D. C.

7354

2 Held, 6 Hunted In Alleged Rape Of Soldier's Wife

Washington, D.C.
Post
Fri.

Two men were arrested and six others sought yesterday in connection with the alleged rape of the 19-year-old wife of a serviceman stationed in Germany. 5-28-46

Joseph R. Cook, Negro, 23, of 1745 Seaton st. nw., and James R. Matthews, Negro, 21, of 1739 Seaton st. nw., were both charged with rape. The alleged victim was Mrs. Mary Magdalene Cotton, 19, Negro, of 1709 Seaton st. nw., who told police eight men forced her at the point of a knife to accompany them to a vacant lot next to 2155 Champlain st. nw. shortly after midnight yesterday. Mrs. Cotton said the men assaulted her and fled when they thought they saw a police car driving past. 5-28-46 Fri.

Cleric Accused of Rape, Sues Co-ed

The Tribune Washington, D.C.

Sat. 10-19-46

By E. W. BAKER

Comely Miss Leola Taylor, 20, Howard University co-ed from Dixieland, who has unsuccessfully tried to get a warrant charging rape against the "Rev" Arthur George Tillman, 58, of 1823 Vernon St., N.W., finds herself this week defendant in a $2,000 damage suit charging false arrest.

9c

Mr. Tillman states in his complaint, filed in the Municipal Court, that on September 26, Miss Taylor, who lives at 1838 9th St., N.W., "willfully, wrongfully, and unlawfully caused him to be arrested and placed in jail for a long period of time."

He says this caused him "great personal injury and inconvenience against his desire." As a result of the arrest, Mr. Tillman further states that he received "painful and permanent physical injuries and great shock to his nervous system.",

"He still persists that if the said injuries continue over a period of time, they will cost the plaintiff the sum of $2,000," the petition continued.

Therefore that sum, plus attorney's fees, and court costs are asked.

Who Is Lawyer?

The name of the plaintiff in the case is given as Arthur G. Tillman, his lawyer as A. G. Tilghman. Neither the roster of Washington lawyers, nor the telephone directory lists any attorney by the name of Tillman nor Tilghman.

Mr. Tillman, who operates a rooming house, is said by court attaches to set himself out as a member of the bar, frequently occupying the lawyers' dock in the various courts, wagging a brief case.

Miss Taylor has retained J. H. K. Renfro to represent her.

Nowhere in his complaint does Mr. Tillman tell of the events on Monday night, September 23, as related to this writer by Miss Taylor right after the events later described.

At the time, she had just resigned a position in the Munitions Building, War Department, to enter Howard University. Meanwhile, she took up part-time secretarial work with Mr. Tillman.

It was on this evening that Miss Taylor charges that Mr. Tillman threatened her with a shotgun and criminally assaulted her, while a woman regarded as his wife was at a nearby grocery store.

Offered Manager's Job

The young woman had only worked for him four days. However, Miss Taylor says he told her that evening he was going to make her manager of the rooming house because the tenants were "running over him."

Miss Taylor says she objected to the promotion, whereupon Mr. Tillman reportedly told her she would be manager if he wanted her to be, and do anything else he wanted her to do.

Big Me, Little You

Miss Taylor says an obscene word was used in describing just what he wanted her to do. She allegedly told him that he had the wrong type of girl, and asked for her pay, saying she did not plan to return.

Mr. Tillman is then reported to have told the girl he was not going to pay her a cent until she did what he wanted her to do.

Orders Wife Out

Mrs. Tillman is said to have remonstrated with the cleric for taking advantage of the young girl and not paying her off as requested. When Mr. Tillman is reported to have become furious at the interruption and ordered Mrs. Tillman out, she picked up a milk bottle and left for the grocery.

Meanwhile, Miss Taylor again demanded her money and picked up the telephone to call police, she says. "Nobody is going to call police over my phone." said Mr. Tillman, according to Miss Taylor, as he grabbed for a shotgun.

The co-ed says that when she grabbed him around the neck to keep the weapon from being trained on her, Tillman swung her to the couch, put his knee in her stomach, and effected a penetration.

Screams Attract Officer

Miss Taylor says that her screams attracted the attention of Pvt. S. J. King of the 13th Precinct about a block away. He asked Mrs. Tillman, en route home from the store, where the screams were coming from. She did not know at the time they were from her own home.

A few moments later, Miss Taylor ran out, and seeing Officer King told him what had happened. They returned to the home, but found that the cleric had departed.

Miss Taylor states than an examination at Gallinger Hospital and private physicians revealed that she had been penetrated and her stomach injured by the cleric's knee.

Mr. Tillman remained free until September 26, being picked up by Det. Sgt. J. B. Layton of the sex, narcotic squad. He was booked at the 13th Precinct, then taken to headquarters for investigation.

Miss Taylor spent the greater portion of two days, September 27, and 28, trying to obtain a rape warrant. But Mr. Tillman was released on the first named date by an assistant district attorney.

It was felt by legal minds that certain elements of the case would make it difficult to sustain a rape charge before a jury.

Florida

7355

Man 23 Rapes 2-Yr. Old Girl In Goulds Site

Atlanta, Ga.

MIAMI, Fla.—(SNS)— Daily World

Mob violence was narrowly averted during Monday night of the past week when Negro citizens of Goulds, Fla., instead of Perrine, as was first stated, cornered James Carl Walker, 23, in a neighborhood house after he had committed rape upon a two-year-old girl, Eloise Lovett, after kidnapping her from her home a short distance from where the crime was committed.

34i

County Policemen Mack Tuggles and Dan Tuggles, who had been summoned to the scene, made the arrest shortly afterwards the same night. 6-11-46

According to witnesses who positively identified Walker, he was seen running through a yard with the baby girl in his arms. He carried her about half a mile down Cutler Drive to the spot where he committed the act and then left her unconscious in the road. She was found later and admitted to the County Hospital at Kendall in a serious condition and still unconscious. Atlanta

Thorough examination of the child victim revealed incredible injuries sustained as a result of the rape as well as multiple bruises about her face and lacerations of the mouth. There are great possibilities that she will lose the sight of one eye. Georgia

The evidence that has been stacked up against Walker, some of which his own body revealed, along with the number of eye-witnesses that will appear against him, moves this paper to ask for the death sentence which undoubtedly will be given on the merits of the case.

Sheriff Says Man Admits Raping Welfare Worker

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Lake City, Fla., Nov. 9 (AP)—Columbia County Sheriff Ralph T. Witt tonight said a Negro taken into custody earlier today had admitted raping a white welfare worker in her automobile near here 10 days ago. Mon. 11-10-46

34i

The man was identified by the sheriff as Reuben Harper, 24, Watertown, near Lake City.

13-YEAR-OLD NEGRO BOY HELD FOR RAPE CLAIMS FRAME-UP

REPORTED BEATEN BY POLICE

The Tattler Jacksonville, Florida

Two weeks ago a 13-year-old Negro paper boy was arrested out McDuff and Beaver Street way and accused of raping a 5-year-old white girl. Sat. 9-7-46

34i Fla.

It is being rumored that the boy was doped by a group of people in order for the frame-up.

One supposedly white eye-witness stated that the boy was riding a bicycle on McDuff Avenue in the broad open day, delivering advertising bills when he ran upon the 5-year-old white girl. He then, according to the white man, took the white girl by the hand, dragged her into an alley, held the wheel with one hand and raped her with the other hand.

It appears that someone is trying to pull off a Madison, Florida stunt and don't know how. The Tattler

We are not calling any names, but the 13-year-old boy lives on Forrest Street with his mother. He claims a frame-up.

No one (especially the Negro press) can see the accused boy as in other cases of this kind. It was reported that the police beat the boy unmercifully in order to make him confess to something that he did not do.

It was also reported that the boy was raised up with the white kids out McDuff Avenue way, and that he is well known by all.

Some people are of the opinion that it is a frame-up. This case will be followed through and the facts made known to the Tattler readers as we receive and uncover htem.

P. S. If such tactics are kept going, every Negro man in this city will be accused and arrested for rape.

SEVEN NEGROES ARRESTED FOR RAPING LAKE CITY WHITE WOMAN WELFARE WORKER, TWO HELD IN JAIL FOR QUESTIONING

The Florida Tattler
Jacksonville, Fla.
Sat. 11-9-46

Fla. 34i

Seven Negroes were arrested last Thursday, October 31, in Lake City for the raping of a white welfare worker.

It was reported that the white woman admitted one Negro into her car to direct her to the home of a destitute Negro family, and that she was raped enroute to the house.

At the present time two of the seven Negroes are still in jail and were taken before the victim last Saturday for identification. Gov. Millard F. Caldwell directed the Sheriff and State Highway patrolmen to "take every precaution to apprehend the man and safeguard him against violence."

Sheriff Witt said the welfare worker is 40 years of age and a resident of Lake iCty.

At this writing we do not know as to whether or not one of the two Negroes now held has been identified as the rapist.

Enraged Father Slashes Suspect

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga. Fri 10-11-46

MIAMI, Fla., Oct. 10—(AP)—State Investigator I. R. Mills said a Negro youth, his throat cut by an irate father, was arrested here Thursday on a charge of assaulting a nine-year-old white girl.

34i

The Negro, identified by Mills as Louis Green, 19, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., was captured by the soldier father of the child as he returned home from visiting his sick wife in a hospital.

The father chased Green for several blocks and threw a hammer at him after he saw a Negro jump from the child's bedroom and flee, the investigator continued.

Mills said the father became so enraged that he cut Green's throat with his pocket knife before turning him over to police.

The investigator gave this account:

The father said he left the child alone to visit his wife at the hospital and after stopping to see some friends, arrived home about 2:25 a. m. and saw a light in the house and thought a neighbor had come to stay with his daughter.

He said he looked through the window and saw the Negro in the child's bed. He said he ran to the front porch to get a hammer but stumbled and fell. He said the man presumably heard the noise and fled through a window.

Green was treated at a hospital for throat injuries then booked on assault charges at the Dade County Jail.

Florida's governor denies pardon for chain gang fugitive

The Tribune
Los Angeles, Calif.
Sat. 9-21-46

NEW YORK — Pardon was denied last week by Florida Gov. Millard F. Caldwell for James Johnson, 25, chain gang fugitive who is being held in $50,000 bail here on charges of trying to rape an 18-year-old white girl, Gloria Paterno, of Jamaica, Queens.

34i

Caldwell explained that while the Florida pardon board, which he heads, has the right to grant parole when, in its opinion, the prisoner's situation justifies it, the board did "not feel disposed, at this time, to consider the subject for parole". Johnson was originally assigned to a chain gang after he allegedly stole 10 packages of cigarettes.

The National Equal Rights League, which made the clemency request, criticized Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, recalling that he has sent three other fugitives back to southern states during the past three years, and would have sent a fourth, if extradition papers had not been halted by the Supreme Court. The League said it believes the present rape accusation against Johnson is "faked".

Youth Held Without Trial

Defender

34i

Fla. 13-Year-Old Faces Rape Charge

Chicago, Ill.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—Dry-rot tactics were charged to county police authorities here this week, when it was revealed that 13-year-old Daniel Haywood has been held since August without trial and with no apparent disposition planned by juvenile officers. Sat. 11-23-46

Young Haywood, an elementary school student, was placed in jail after a hearing on charges of raping a 5-year-old white girl were heard by Justice of the Peace L. B. McCullough. W. L. Clarke, white employee of the Seaboard Air Line Shops, who said he was 10 feet behind Haywood during the alleged attack, was the sole witness.

Newsmen who made several attempts to interview Haywood were told that "it would be better not to see the youth for his own good." It was further reported that the mother of the boy was denied the privilege of seeing her son to hear his side of the charges.

The accused youth denied the charges before McCullough while a hostile mob of whites sat in at the hearing after being incited by Clarke's testimony. Justice McCullough ordered Haywood held for assault with intent to rape despite the dearth of evidence.

It was rumored several weeks ago that a plan was being devised by County Criminal Prosecutor Wayne Ripley to have the youth railroaded for a sentence of 20 years for juvenile delinquency.

Haywood has no police record, officers here say.

6

7350

3 Freed When White Girls Deny Attacks

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Confessions by N.J. High School Senior, Ga. Usherette Name Whites

Sat. 11-2-46

ELIZABETH CITY, N.J. — (ANP)—Three suspects, two of whom were tracked to their homes by bloodhounds, were released from jail here Oct. 19 when Virginia Layden, white high school senior, signed a confession that her story of being assaulted by an unknown assailant in her home three days before was false.

there. Sat. 11-2-46

The three men were apprehended after a hue and cry had been raised over the alleged assault, and State highway patrolmen had been called out to assist county and city officials in finding the "unidentified suspect."

Lovers' Quarrel

Bloodhounds, procured from an adjoining county, were pressed into service. According to police officials, the girl and her boy friend, a wounded veteran, had just returned from Norfolk and stopped in a local cafe.

The boy friend, becoming jealous of the attention she paid another man, started an argument while en route to her sister's home and the fight began.

The girl, however, refused to name the boy friend and declared, "I'm not going to testify against him if you pick him up."

Ga. Girl Confesses, Too

Meanwhile, in a similar case in Savannah (Ga.), a 17-year-old white theatre usherette, Betty Deloach, who previously had charged that two colored men were the slayers of her escort, changed her story last Thursday and identified two white men as the killers.

Solicitor General Andrew J. yan Jr. obtained the girl's confession after 10 weeks of investigation. She said the victim, Anthony Ellixson, 22, was making love to her in an automobile when the men forced him into the woods.

Later she heard a pistol shot after Ellixson had cried out, "Don't shoot me."

Tells True Story

Miss Deloach said the men first robbed her escort, blindfolding her and ordering her to the rear of the automobile. After the shooting she was ordered to remove her slacks and get in the front seat where she was intimate with both men.

The Afro-American

All the while, she said, Ellixson's body was in the rear of the automobile where the men had dumped it.

Baltimore, Md.

"They warned me that if I told on them they would kill me," she declared. They stayed with me about two hours and then left me

7356 file

Wac on Witness Stand Points To Four Suspects as Attackers

Washington, D.C. Post

2-13-46

Baltimore, Feb. 12 (AP).—Trembling as she took the witness stand, a member of the Women's Army Corps today identified four Negroes as the assailants who threatened her with a knife and then raped her six times on a lonely road near Edgewood Arsenal, January 8.

The 28-year-old woman, a divorcee and mother of two children, only one of whom is living, was helped into and out of the courtroom. She had been treated for nervous shock in the Edgewood Hospital since the incident.

The four men charged with rape and attempted rape are William Demby, 23, Roy Peters, 22; his brother, Theodore Peters, 29, and Robert J. Gilbert, 18, all of near Edgewood.

34r

2-13-46 Md.

Trial Moved from Harford

The trial, which was moved here from Harford County (Md.), is being heard before a special three-judge court without a jury. Sitting with Chief Judge W. Conwell Smith were Judges Edwin T. Dickerson and Herman M. Moser.

Maximum penalty for rape in Maryland is death by hanging.

The Wac said she and Army Sergt. E. E. Ferrell were walking back to Edgewood on January 8 after skating in a nearby rink.

A car containing the four men she identified today as her assailants stopped, she testified, and Demby jumped from the car and chased Ferrell away with a knife.

The others left the automobile, she continued, and two chased Ferrell while the other men grabbed her and pulled her into the vehicle.

The witness, her face trembling, wrote out for the court, rather than enunciate, an obscene question she said the Negroes asked.

Threatened With Knife

After driving several miles to a lonely lane, she told the court, the men threatened to "slash her throat" and then Demby raped her.

She said Demby attacked her twice again and the others raped her three times.

The Wac said they passed a car evidently searching for someone—Ferrell had telephoned to police and a general hunt started—and the men forced her to lie on the floor of the rear of the car so she could not be seen.

Spectators were limited at the trial and special guards kept groups from gathering outside the courtroom. At the opening of court, a large crowd had blocked completely courthouse corridors.

Under cross examination, the Wac said she had resisted and struggled only during the sixth and final attack. She testified that she had not screemed or shouted, adding that the car had been driven to a lonely spot.

An Army doctor testified that when the woman was examined after the incident she bore "no bruises or other bodily injuries" except a small superficial laceration on one leg. The witness said it might have been caused by a briar, tack, or "anything sharp."

Suffers from Shock

The Wac was "in a highly nervous state" and suffering from shock, the doctor told the court.

Sergeant Ferrell, the woman's escort, was unable to identifiy the men. He testified the car had stopped and one of the men had offered to drive them to the Army post. Then, he said, the Negroes had "swung at" him.

Defense Attorney Thomas F. Cadwalader asked him during cross-examination if he had swung back. The sergeant said he did not.

Asked if "that's what they teach you in the Army" Ferrell replied that the Army taught them to "defend ourselves."

Ferrell told the defense counsel he had run away because "I thought if they caught me they would have a better chance of getting away with whatever they were going to do." He said he had no idea at the time what the men's intentions were.

2-13-46

"But you left her there?" Cadwalader asked.

"Yes, sir," Ferrell replied.

"Do they teach you that in the Army?" the lawyer queried.

Another Rape Is Charged

The Informer

Houston, Texas

HOUSTON — Another woman was raped in the vicinity of the recent similar crime commited against a young mother, Friday night Jan. 18, a similiarity in the description given in both cases was both victims say their assailant was brown skinned and had a mustache and that he choked them.

1-26-46

34r

The young woman who reported she was raped Friday night said she is visiting here from California. She stated she had been to the DeLuxe theater on Lyons avenue with a man friend who lives in the Third Ward. After the show she took the Lyons bus going out to Schweikart street and the friend took the Lyons going to Third Ward.

When she got off the bus on Schweikart, the young woman stated, a man began following her. He caught her around the neck and told her he knew where she lived and that he was going to take her home. She says she then told him "alright, but who are you." She says he did not tell her who he was but insisted on going home with her, taking her by what he called a short cut. Then the criminal suggested going to the Gay Paree tavern and the woman says she agreed, biding her time to escape.

1-26-46

When they arrived at the tavern it had closed and the rapist grabbed her around the neck and choked her, all the while pulling her in back of the tavern to a vacant lot. She says she pleaded to "catch her breath" and when he released his hold she broke loose and ran but fell. When she fell, she says, the lust-crazed criminal held her, ripping off some of her clothes and raped her.

Officers who investigated, say the woman told them, she was leaving for California and never expected to come back to Texas not even for a trial if the criminal is caught, so they dropped the case for lack of prosecution.

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2 Youths Held In Wac Attack; 2 More Hunted

Post 1-13-46

Washington, D.C.

Bel Air, Md., Jan. 12 (AP).—Two of four Negro youths hunted for assaulting a Women's Army Corps member last Tuesday night near Edgewood, Md., are being held in Harford County Jail on a charge of rape, State police reported today.

34r

Police identified them as Theodore Peters, 29, and Robert J. Gilbert, 18, of near Edgewood. Two two signed statements admitting they attacked the Wac private and implicated two companions, for whom warrants are out, police said.

The two men being sought are Roy N. Peters, 22, brother of Theodore, and William Denby, 22, also of near Edgewood, police reported. Warrants charging both with rape have been issued, State police said.

The Wac, who has been suffering from shock at the Edgewood Arsenal Hospital, and her escort, Staff Sergt. Ernen E. Ferrell, were walking along a road near the arsenal Tuesday night when a sedan with four men drove alongside and held them up at point of knife.

The men beat Sergeant Ferrell until he was stunned and forced the girl into the car and drove off. State Trooper E. E. Everhardt found the Wac in a hysterical condition some time later.

Another State trooper picked up Theodore Peters shortly afterward on Highway 40. From his description the police started the search for the other three.

Maryland Grand Jury To Hear Rape Case

Richmond Times Dispatch

Richmond Va.

BEL AIR, MD., Jan. 14—(AP)—Judge Frederick Lee Coburn recalled today the November term of the Harford County grand jury for Monday, January 21, to hear the cases of four Negroes charged with abduction and rape of a 26-year-old WAC.

34r

State's Attorney D. Paul McNabb, said that a preliminary hearing scheduled by Magistrate Stanley S. Spencer for January 19 probably would be continued pending action of the jury.

Two of the men, booked as Roy Peters, 23, and William Denby, 23, both of Denbytown, Md., are held at the State police barracks at Benson. They were captured yesterday as they walked along Philadelphia Road, near Magnolia, Md.

The other two, booked as Theodore Peters, 29, also of Denbytown, and Robert J. Gilbert, 18, of Magnolia, were captured last week, and are held in the Harford County jail here.

The men were accused of abducting the WAC from her soldier-escort near Edgewood last Tuesday night, forcing her into their car and raping her. She has been the Edgewood Arsenal Hospital since.

1-15-46

Two Defendants In Attack Case Deny Using Knife

Washington Post

Washington, D.C.

Baltimore, Feb. 13 (AP).—Two of four Negroes charged with raping an Edgewood Arsenal Wac testified before a three-judge court today that they had relations with her but denied that they threatened her with a knife.

34r Md.

The 28-year-old Wac, a divorcee and mother, testified in Criminal Court yesterday that she had submitted to the men six times after they had threatened to "slash my throat" and forced her to accompany them to a lonely spot in an automobile.

2-14-46

William Demby, 23, and Roy Peters, 22, two of the four Harford County Negroes charged with raping the Wac the night of January 8, testified that all of them had relations with her after she had at first refused, then submitted.

The other defendants are Theodore Peters, 29, and Robert J. Gilbert, 18. All reside near Edgewood.

Demby admitted that he struck at an Army sergeant who was walking back to the post with the Wac, but he denied that a knife was used to threaten either the sergeant or the woman. He admitted that a butcher knife was found in his car but denied it was used.

Grand Jury Called Monday to Weigh Wac Attack Case

1-16-46

Washington Post

Bel Air, Md., Jan. 15 (AP).—The November term of the Harford County grand jury will reconvene Monday to consider the cases of four Negroes charged with the abduction and rape of a 26-year-old member of the Women's Army Corps from Edgewood Arsenal.

34r

State's Attorney D. Paul McNabb said that Judge Frederick Lee Cobourn had recalled the grand jury to consider the cases of Roy Peters, 23; his brother Theodore Peters, 29, and William Denby, 23, and Robert J. Bilbert, 18.

The Wac and a soldier escort were walking along a road near Edgewood last Tuesday night when a car stopped and four men threatened the pair with knives. State police said that the Wac was forced into the machine, and the occupants drove off.

D.C.

Later a State trooper came upon the automobile and found the Wac in a shocked and dazed condition. The four men had fled.

Negro Granted New Hearing

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., Feb. 1.—Johnny B. Smith, 23-year-old Negro charged with criminal assault on a middle-aged white woman at her home in the eastern section of Tuscaloosa County a year ago, has been granted a new hearing, set for Wednesday, Feb. 20. The Negro was convicted by a Circuit Court in March, 1945, and sentenced to death in the electric chair.

34r

The State Supreme Court ordered the conviction reversed on technical grounds that the defendant should not have been required to stand up for purposes of identification while on trial. Atty. E. L. Dodson, representing the Negro by appointment, entered a plea of not guilty.

2-13-46

At the trial the woman positively identified the Negro as one who came to her home when she was alone, stabbed her four times following the assault and said [illegible]

White girl's rape charge falls through; men freed

Los Angeles

Tribune

Floyd Kirby and Loyal James Ellis, of 10101 Croesus ave., were freed of four counts of rape and kidnapping by Superior Judge Edward R. Brand, sitting without a jury, Monday. 1-19-46

34r Calif

The men had been accused by Mrs. Ruth Alcale, white, of 321 North Boyle ave., of picking her up in an automobile last Sept. 16 about one a.m., and attacking her while they drove around in the automobile. She testified that the car approached her and she asked Kirby, who was driving, to take her to her home. At that time, she did not know Ellis was in the rear of the automobile, she said. She testified that the men threatened her, and that Ellis attacked her twice, and Kirby once.

Under severe cross-examination by Defense Attorney Walter L. Gordon, Jr., the woman admitted that she had made no outcries at the time of the alleged occurences. Deputy sheriffs said they saw the car on a lonely road, and when they investigated, the woman said that she had been kidnapped and attacked. A search of the automobile revealed a revolver. After a lengthy argument, Gordon convinced the court that the woman had voluntarily gone with the men, and upon her discovery by the officers, made the complaint out of fear she would be arrested for prostitution. 1-19-46

Southern Negro Youth Congress, NAACP Plan Legal Action In Miss. Rape Case

Daily World
34N
3-4-46

JACKSON, Miss.—Plans for further legal action in Mississippi Rape Cases by the Southern Negro Youth Council, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and probably the American Civil Liberties Union, were revealed here last week following a visit to Jackson and Laurel for preliminary investigation by Louis E. Burnham of the Birmingham Office of the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

The cases under investigation were those of Willie McGee, Laurel and Sherman Street and Albert Lee of Jackson.

In the Laurel Case, Willie McGee was sentenced to death on a charge of rape after trial in which the jury deliberated only one and one-half minutes. In the case of Sherman Street in Jackson the death sentence was imposed after the jury had deliberated two minutes. Also in Jackson, Albert Lee, a 17-year-old student was sentenced to 18 years in the penitentiary on a charge of attempt rape.

In Laurel the investigation revealed that there are many white citizens who doubted the attack charge placed against McGee, who it was alleged to have entered the home of a white mother on November 2, and attacked her while her sick child slept beside her in the bed, and while her husband was asleep in an adjoining room. In the trial of McGee which took place on December 6 with the presence of State Militia-men sent by the Governor to prevent any attempts at a lynching, the trial judge refused a request by the court-appointed attorney for the accused to call in competent physicians to give the defendant a sanity test. Several of the jurors were picked at random from the streets after the regular panel had been exhausted.

After refusing the request of Defendant Counsel for competent sanity examinations, the court called in several non-professional persons who readily declared the defendant sane and the trial proceeded according to schedule.

McGee, who was normal at the time of his arrest was suffering from a severe mental condition at the trial, which is said to have resulted in part from a beating he had received following his arrest and before his removal to the Hinds County Jail in Jackson for safe keeping.

3-4-46

In the case of Sherman Street, in Jackson the investigation revealed several angles to the case which Mr. Brunham said warranted further study. Street, it was revealed, had been a leader in efforts to obtain back salaries from his former employers as a result of which the employers were found to owe large sums in back wages. It was also revealed that a previous charge of attempt rape against Street, for which he was acquitted resulted from a similar relationship with an employer in Belzoni, Miss.

In the case of Albert Lee, who was arrested here the day following his arrival from Souther Christian Institute, where he had graduated after a four-year attendance, Lee was charged with attempt rape after being picked up by police enroute home when an attempt entry into the home of a white family in the Bailey Avenue Section of North Jackson was frustrated by the cries of a young girl occupant of the room through which the entry was attempted.

Mr. Burnham said here that in all the cases there wa sabundant evidence of violation of the right of trial by "Due Process of Law." That in all the cases alleged confession were obtained under the strongest kind of "duress." And that the closed door sessions of the trial courts amounted to nothing les

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Mother Of 2 Children Criminally Attacked

The Informer
Houston, Texas
34N
Tex.

HOUSTON.—A young mother of two small children was criminally attacked as she walked toward her home on Staples street after leaving her job in the mechanical department of the Informer newspaper plant on Leeland avenue Wednesday night.

According to the young mother's statement a proper-talking, well-dressed man who had a heavy mustache and was light brown skinned, grabbed her around the neck as she entered the intersection of Oats and Staples streets. Choking her all the time, she says he dragged her about three blocks down a railroad track where he held a knife against her body and criminally assaulted her.

"I'll Let You Live"

Before he let her go, she says he asked her if she were married and she told him she was and that she had two small children. She says he then told her, "I'll let you live then, if you have kids, but that's the only reason."

1-5-46

She says she then ran home and her sister-in-law who lives next door, called police. She says the officers carried her to the Jefferson Davis hospital, where she was treated. On a description she gave them of the attacker, police began an immediate search for the criminal.

~~Woman Raped By 2 After 5 Attack Her~~

34N

A 29-year-old woman told police she was attacked by five Negro men and raped by two of them in a shed at the rear of her home in the 200 block East Jacob at 3 a.m. yesterday. One of the men, she said, held a revolver in her face and threatened to fire if she screamed.

She said she was forced to the shed after she was awakened by a noise and went to the front door to investigate. Following the attacks she went to Police Headquarters and then to General Hospital for treatment.

Sumter Man Charged With Rape of White Woman

News and Courier
Charleston, S.C.
34N

Sumter, Oct. 25.—Special: Wash Pringle, Sumter county, negro, is being held by county officers and charged with rape of a white woman of this county Tuesday morning about 1 o'clock, Sheriff W. J. Seale said today. 10-26-45

County and state officers worked on the case from the time it was first reported to them Tuesday morning until yesterday, when Pringle was arrested. He will be tried in sessions court which convenes here November 12. 9th day

S.C.

Missouri Suspect

Charged With Second Murder

Courier
Pittsburg, Pa.
34N

COLUMBIA, Mo.—Floyd Cochran, thirty-four-year-old garbage collector, was charged, last Friday, March 1 with the rape-murder of Marylou Jenkins, white, twenty years old and a graduate of fashionable Stephens College, whose body was found three weeks ago as Colonel Hugh Waggoner, State Patrol Superintendent, announced the man had signed a full confession. Sat. 3-9-46

Waggoner withheld text of the confession but revealed that the man who was known to the Jenkins family, gained entrance to the four-room bungalow home on the pretext of collecting money for his garbage service.

Cochran had been picked up Feb. 25, on a charge of slaying his wife, Mae Anna, several days previously.

Police said that in a statement, later, the suspect admitted to circumstances "involving him" in the death of Marylou.

Marylou was strangled with a strand of light cord.

Police officials said that the accused had been taken out of town for safe-keeping.

Garbage Man

Wife-Killer Held as Girl's Rape-Slayer

The Washington Post
Washington D.C.
Sat. 3-2-46
34N

Columbia, Mo., March 1 (U.P.).—The brutal rape-killing February of Marylou Penkins, 20, recent graduate of Stephens College here, has been solved and the killer was Floyd Cochran, 34, Negro, a garbage collector, police announced today.

Cochran was whisked into Columbia for arraignment on a charge of murder and whisked out again, just as quickly, for confinement in an unannounced jail, as a precaution against the possibility of mob violence. Sat. 3-2-46

Cochran might not have been connected with the crime if he had not slain his wife with a shotgun last weekend. The wife, police said, had found blood on his clothing and Cochran feared she was going to notify police. Before his arrest, Cochran tried to drink poison. His distraught state caused police to question him concerning the rape-slaying, and he made a full confession, they said.

Police said Cochran said he smothered his victim with a blanket, raped her and left 20 minutes later, not knowing he had killed her. The girl was strangled by a length of electric light cord wrapped five times around her neck.

3-30-46 Sat.

Negro Bound Over In Criminal Attack

Birmingham News
34N
Ala.

Clarence Day, a discharged Negro veteran was bound over to the Grand Jury yesterday by Judge G. C. Boner on a charge of raping a Negro woman.

City police officers testified the attack occurred in the city patrol wagon as the two Negroes were being transported to the city jail.

Bond was set for the Negro at $1,000.

Rape Case Trial Set for April 15

Times-Dispatch
Richmond, Va.
34N
Va.

Trial of the four Negro men, charged with attempting to rape a 22-year-old white woman and of trying to rob her escort, Dr. Walker Jordan, was set yesterday in Hustings Court for April 15. The four defendants were indicted Monday.

The young woman and Dr. Jordan were walking on West Grace Street about 5 A. M. Saturday when they were attacked.

The defendants are George Edward (Buster) Nicholas, of the 1700 block Lakeview Ave.; Robert Anderson, of the 1600 block Claiborne St.; Willie Lee Smith, of the 200 block Temple St., and John Edward Ford, 22, whose address was not listed.

Dr. Jordan said the four men sprang from a parked car and attacked them, then drove away with the young woman. Police found the car and the young woman a short time later on Laurel Street, between Grace and Franklin Streets. A short while later they arrested Nicholas, Anderson and Smith. Ford surrendered to police Sunday night.

Garbage Man Confesses Rape, Murder of Girl, Police Say

Richmond Times Dispatch
Va. Sat.
34N

COLUMBIA, MO., March 1—(UP)—The brutal rape-killing of Marylou Jenkins, 20, recent graduate of fashionable Stephens College, has been solved and the killer was Floyd Cochran, 34, Negro, a garbage collector, Colonel Hugh Waggoner, superintendent of State police, announced today.

Cochran was whisked into Columbia by State police for arraignment on a charge of murder and whisked out again, just as quickly, for confinement in an unannounced jail. Authorities said this was a precaution against the possibility of mob violence in this college town, seat of the University of Missouri and Stephens College. 3-2-46

Waggoner said Cochran might not have been connected with the crime if he had not slain his wife with a shotgun last week end. The wife, he continued, had found blood and other evidences about his clothing to indicate he was Miss Jenkins' slayer and Cochran feared she was going to notify police. Before he was arrested, Cochran tried to drink poison. His generally distraught state caused police to question him concerning the rape-slaying. 3-2-46

Man Confesses

He was taken to Jefferson City where on Tuesday he made a full confession, Waggoner said.

Psychiatrists yesterday concluded that Cochran was sane, he added, saying lie detector tests indicated Cochran was telling the truth in his confession.

"He reconstructed the crime at the home to the full satisfaction of all law enforcement agencies connected with the case," Waggoner said. 3-2-46

Cochran was known to the Jenkins family. He gained entrance to the modest four-room bungalow home where Miss Jenkins was alone, on the pretext of collecting the periodic fee for his garbage-collecting service.

Slayer Hunted

Officers, who had been seeking the slayer since the girl's body was found by her mother on February 6, had maintained the slayer was someone she knew. They reasoned she wouldn't have unlocked the screen door to permit her killer to enter if she hadn't known him.

Waggoner said Cochran said he smothered his victim with a blanket, raped her and left 20 minutes later, not knowing he had killed her. 3-2-46

Her mother, a nurse working in a near-by home, found her body crumbled to the floor of the living room, her negligee and the upper part of her pajamas around her shoulders. Otherwise the body was unclothed.

She had been strangled by a length of electric light cord wrapped five times around her neck. 3-2-46

Negro, 54, Held In Jail, Faces Assault Charge

Montgomery Ala.
Advertiser
34N
Ala.

LeRoy Jackson, Negro, 54, 313 South Jackson Street, was held without bail in the city jail last night on a charge of rape preferred by Chris M. Ferrell, Negro woman, about 20 years old, Tuskegee Institute, who claimed she was assaulted in Montgomery Sunday morning. H. E. Jackson, police headquarters, said last night. The case will come up before Judge John B. Scott in Recorder's Court at 8:30 a.m. today. 3-12-46

Florida Gov. to Sue Mag for Lynch Story

Sat.

New York Amsterdam, N.Y. N.Y.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (ANP) — Gov. Millard Caldwell of Florida notified Collier's magazine that he intends to file libel suit against it for publication of an editorial he contends was "false, defamatory and damaging to the state of Florida, its citizens and to me." The editorial in question was written after Gov. Caldwell made certain statements concerning the lynching of Jesse James Payne in Madison, Fla.

The Governor stated that any proceeds from the suit would be turned over to the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College for Negroes located here at Tallahassee. It is the land grant college of the State and is headed by Dr. William H. Gray, Jr. 3-16-46

34i

"Twas A Lynching

Jesse James Payne was spirited out of the unguarded jail at Madison last October 11 and killed. He was charged with attempted rape on a young white girl. This case became controversial in the press when it was learned that the jail was left unguarded by the sheriff. It was later learned that Sheriff Davis was related to the victim.

Gov. Caldwell has contended that this case was "not a lynching." He claims that James was spirited away and kiled by one individual and not a mob, therefore this case does not fit his definition of a lynching. He also protested a similar write-up in Times magazine. Time printed a correction, retraction and apology in its issue of Feb. 4. Sat.

The editorial in Collier's was printed Feb. 23 under the heading of "Two Governors on Race Problems." It compared the attitude of the Governors of North Carolina and Florida in two cases that were similar. In North Carolina a 14-year-old Negro was convicted of raping a pregnant woman. The Governor of North Carolina commuted the death sentence to life imprisonment. In commuting the sentence of this youth the Governor took time out to rebuke the State for not providing a better environment for its youth.

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4 UNKNOWN MEN ATTACK WOMAN

New Orleans, La.

Louisiana Weekly

According to a police report from the Fourth Precinct, Miss Jernice LaCasse, 23, was kidnaped and raped last Thursday at about 3:30 a. m. by four unidentified men and her escort robbed of 28 cents. Miss LaCasse was walking along down N. Claiborne Ave. with Oliver Ducre after visiting with him and his wife. The pair were approached from the rear by two men who stuck a gun in Ducre's back and took his wallet, which, at the time, contained only 28 cents. Another man got out of a car which was parked in front of them. The three forced Miss LaCasse into the car and turned the gun on Ducre, who had been escorting her home, forcing him to keep walking down Claiborne. Sat 5-4-46

34i

Upon her release Miss LaCasse contacted the police and told them the story of her attack by the three men and a fourth who had been hiding in the car. She told them that she thought the car was a cream-colored Ford sedan and that she believed it to be a Pelican Cab. When she was taken to the Pelican Cab stand, however, Miss LaCasse was unable to identify any of their drivers. Apparently confused by the attack, Miss LaCasse believed later that the car might have been a Plymouth. Since the Pelican Cab Company does not operate any Plymouth machines, it is highly doubtful that one of their cabs was involved. Sat 5-4-46

34i La.

Woman Claims Criminal Assault Early At Night

Louisville, Ky.

Journal-Guide

Attacked By Three Men, Threatened With Knife at Back

5-4-46

NORFOLK — Mrs. Alpha Mainor of 738 Smith street, reported to police that as she was walking on East Olney road near Fourth street about 9:30 Thursday night, April 18, she was attacked by three men, one of whom held a knife in her back, and threatened to kill her if she made an outcry.

34i Va.

The men then forced her to walk to a vacant lot between Nicholson and Hull streets, where, she said she was made to enter an abandoned car on the lot, and while one man held a knife on her, the other criminally assaulted her.

When she finally escaped her attackers, who constantly threatened to kill her if she raised any alarm, she ran to the second precinct station and related her story to the police.

Woman Struck Down In Street, Held All Night, Raped Twice

Journal & Guide Sat 5-4-46

Norfolk, Va.

(Reprinted from Last Week's Late Edition)

PORTSMOUTH—James Johnson Williams, 834 Griffin street, is held in Portsmouth jail on charges of felonious assault, rape, and robbery—charges which grew out of allegations by a young married woman to the effect that she was struck down in the street and then forced to the home of the defendant where she spent a night of terror.

34i Va.

The young woman, who is employed in a High street confectionery store, was on her way home Saturday night at about 9:30 o'clock when she was assaulted by a man at Chestnut and Duke streets, the assailant striking her on the head with a blunt instrument.

As the dazed girl struggled to her feet, the assailant jabbed a weapon into her back. She told police that she believed it to be an ice pick.

"Put your arms around me, baby, so people will think we are friends. I'm taking you to my room."

With those sinister instructions, the man forced her to walk with him to the Griffin street address where she was held for the remainder of the night. The man raped her twice, she told investigating police officers.

On the following morning the man informed her that, "I'm going out, but I'll be right back." He then locked her in the room.

After he had gone, the girl opened a window of the second-story bedroom and escaped by climbing down on a shed.

She went home to her worried husband and informed him of what had happened. Together they went to police headquarters and reported the amazing affair.

MAKE ARREST

Detectives A. P. Brockwell and R. C. Journee Jr., were immediately assigned to the case and shortly afterwards arrested Williams at the corner of King and Godwin streets. Detective Sergeant L. C. Ellis, who directed the investigation, told the Guide this week that the young woman had identified Williams as the man who assaulted and raped her and then made off with the money she had in her purse. Sat 5-4-46

Sgt. Ellis stated that Williams denies the charges, claiming that someone else struck the girl on the head and that he came along later and assisted her.

Sgt. Ellis stated that police are continuing their investigation.

After a preliminary hearing in Portsmouth Police Court Tuesday morning, Williams was bound over to the Hustings grand jury on charges of criminal assault and robbery by force and was fined $25 and costs on the accusation of carrying an ice pick.

Tells Informer He Has Been "Falsely Accused"

The Informer Houston Texas

HOUSTON — His mouth twisting nervously, eyes streaming with tears, Huey Wilson, charged with criminally assaulting, and assault to murder of a 43-year-old widow, white, at her residence in South End, told Informer reporters, Saturday, May 11, that he had been falsely accused, and that he was visiting one of his friends, at the time the victim was attacked.

34i Tex.

Wilson was pointed out by the widow as being the man that was hiding in her bedroom May 8, hitting her on the head with a brick, taking her in the bedroom and criminally attacking her.

"When the woman pointed me out," Wilson said, "it was my first time ever seeing her.

"About 8:15 a. m., Wednesday, I left my house and went straight to see a friend of mine, Annie Love, of 2413 Morgan street. I did not return until 10:10 a. m." Sat 5-18-46

According to police, Wilson is an ex-convict with three previous penitentiary terms; a five-year term for burglary in 1936 and a three-year term for burglary in 1942.

On his last sentence, Wilson was released on a conditional pardon, after serving one year of the term, records show.

He was arrested Thursday, May 9, by Inspector C. V. Kern, at his home, 902 Marshall street (rear), and taken to jail, where he was questioned.

Police said Wilson would also be questioned in connection with the April 17, 1944 slaying of Mrs. Mollie Garrett Richardson, who was found beaten to death in her home, 5209 Hancock.

7357

Police Arrest Suspect In Recent Attack Cases

The Informer Houston Defender

Sat. 5-25-46

HOUSTON — The arrest of a suspect who, his victim claimed, impersonated an officer from the probation department in a ruse to attack her is hoped by police to shed some light on the attacks in the neighborhood of the Negro hospital and the elementary schools. Three of the crimes occurred last week. The 16-year-old victim of a raping May 16, told officers she was taken to the Burrus school annex and raped twice then made to remain at the school all night, by the suspect.

34i Tex.

The girl told Officers Thompson and Stevens that she and her escort took a short cut through the yard of the Negro hospital and had just emerged from the Southwest gate shortly after midnight when the man, impersonating an officer and night watchman for the hospital and all the schools, stopped them and had them wait near the hospital until he went inside the purportedly to call officers. Sat 5-25-46

The couple say they saw the man stop and talk to the hospital janitor a few moments. Afterward he came back to where he had left them and told them the janitor told him not to put them in jail. He then told the girl's escort to go on home but carried the girl with him to the Douglas school building, where he flashed a light and tried all the doors and windows which were locked.

He then took the girl with him to town where they caught a Studewood bus and went to the Burrus school buildings where he began trying doors and windows until he found one open. He then forced the girl to go through the window into an annex to the school, telling her he was going to punish her for not having a health card.

"When he got her inside, he made her undress and raped her twice she told officers She says she begged him to let her go but he made her wait until morning. When she arrived home her mother was gone to work and the girl says she did not know what to do until her mother returned and she told her. The mother called the officers and they began immediate investigation.

Officers Thompson and Stevenson learned the identity of the man and were told he worked at a tavern on Rosalie and Page sts. They secured a picture of him and both the girl and her escort identified it as the man who stopped them in the guise of an officer and later raped the girl. Officers Stevenson and Thompson later showed the picture to the Superintendent at the Negro Hospital who identified it as a man he had seen in March or April at the hospital in company with a boy, two girls and a woman. Sat. 5-25-46

The superintendent stated that the man told him he was a probation officer named Johnson, and was calling officers to arrest the young people for misconduct in the vicinity of the hospital. He put a nickle in the telephone but never appeared to have made contact, the superintendent stated.

The man then left with the others and no more was heard of him until he recognized his description May 16, the superintendent stated. He said he had been told that the man had made it a common practice to come to the hospital on several occasions to make calls to "officers" on young people.

The man has been arrested and placed in jail but the district attorney will be consulted before charges are preferred, officers stated. The offense occurred the same night two other young people, a boy and a girl were attacked as they came out the front entrance of the hospital.

City police are looking for two Negroes, in connection with two offenses committed Wedneseday, May 15, upon two strolling couples, and another similar offense against a couple Monday, May 13, all offenses were but a few blocks apart.

34h

The first offense, robbery by assault, was committed upon Jessie Richardson, 19, of 2812 Nagle st., and his girl friend, Kay Williams, 23, of 3124 Anita, about 12:50 a. m., on the corner of Briley at Anita, and the second offense, aggravated assault, occurred about 8:45 p. m. in the 2900 block on Holman avenue, in front of the Houston Negro hospital.

Sat 5-25-46

The latter victims were Ellis Tennison, 18, of 3308 Nance, and his girl friend, Even Tobin, 16, of 507 Lakin street, who told police officers that as they walked out of the front entrance of the Houston Negro hospital, where they had been attending a class, two Negro men grabbed them and commenced beating Tennison.

The girl, Even Tobin, broke away from the attackers, and ran down Delano street, but was soon overtaken by one of the men, who scratched the girls' face, while she struggled frantically to free herself. Neither of the young people were able to shed any light on a possible motive for the attack.

After several minutes of deliberate efforts, the 16-year-old girl broke away from the man and fled into a nearby store.

Tennison was taken to Jeferson Davis hospital, where he was treated for a badly bruised face and a jaw laceration. He was held for observation of a possible broken jaw.

The first Wednesday victims, Jessie Richardson and Kay Williams, were enroute home from the movies. Arriving on the corner of Briley and Anita, according to Miss Williams' statement, two men stepped from the shadows and struck Richardson on the head, knocking him to the ground.

Miss Williams further stated that her companion Richardson, immediately regained his feet and sped away into the night, leaving her at the mercy of the criminals.

"One of the men put a knife in my side, and ordered me to go along with them. They walked me south on Briley, and stopped in front of 2709, where they tried to make me lie down on the ground.

"Before the men succeeded in throwing me to the ground, a pedestrian came along, and they became frightened and ran away, taking my 17 jewel wrist watch with them." Miss Williams said to investigating police officers.

Jessie Richardson was treated for a three-inch laceration on the back on his head at Jefferson Davis hospital.

Sat. 5-25-46

Woman Narrowly Escapes

Monday, Mrs. Mary Lee Johnson, 3257 Cleburne street, narrowly escaped from three attackers on the campus of the Blackshear elementary school less than two blocks from the Wednesday attack, when a motorist flashed his car lights on the campus after noticing a commotion. The man ran when the lights flared and the woman was carried home by Willie Rogers, 3342 Anita avenue, the motorist. She and a man companion were attacked on Trexillo street while on their way home from a visit with friends. Haskell Dorsey, the man companion was stunned by a blow from one of the attackers and robbed of $11 and the woman was forced by them to the school yard.

The public as well as police are becoming alarmed over the repitition of these crimes and Lt. George Seber, head of the homicide department, urges victims to make every effort to be able to identify their attackers. Lt. Seber expressed a belief that the same parties are perpetrators of the crimes.

Woman Is Raped While Her Escort Is Held Captive

6-2-46

Time-Dispatch

NORFOLK, June 1 —(P)— A young white woman was raped by two Negro men on East City Hall Avenue early today, according to a report made to police by Archie Dean Ward, her escort, who said he was held at the point of a gun during the occurrence.

34e

Ward, a Navy enlisted man, said he met the woman in a tavern and they entered a taxi together and rode to City Hall Avenue. When they emerged from the car at approximately 12:30 A. M. three Negro men approached them, Ward said. One of the men held a gun in Ward's back and forced the couple to walk to a vacant lot, there the assailants forced both Ward and the girl to remove all their clothing, he said, and one of the men held Ward while the other two raped the girl. The men took $35 from Ward's clothing, he said.

Va.

6-2-44

After the attack the unidentified trio fled. Ward and the young woman recovered parts of their clothing and summoned shore patrol officers.

Dunlap

KKK Aroma in Trenton Rape Charge

The Worker New York, N.Y.

June 5-12-46

By LESTER RODNEY

TRENTON, N. J.—The shadow of the Ku Klux Klan hangs over the Hamilton Township police station shooting of James Everitt, a 20-year-old Negro accused of "rape."

Everitt, up from North Carolina to visit his brother, stationed in Fort Kilmer, was staying with his cousin, Mrs. Bertha Bryant of 315 Grand Ave.

34f

On Sunday night, April 28, he was picked up by police in the neighborhood and rushed to the station house. There he was confronted with a semi-hysterical 17-year-old girl, who accused him of having raped her the night before.

When Everitt ran for the door, he was shot in the back by Patrolman Michalis. He is in serious condition in St. Francis Hospital.

The Worker learned from Mrs. Bryant that Everitt was home at the time of the alleged rape.

Mrs. Bryant, a working woman, mother of a 10-year-old boy, told this reported: "I got home that night at 7:15. I remember turning on the program, the Green Hornet, at 7:30, and Jimmy was listening, too. Then I heard Dick Tracy till 8:30. Jimmy came down at 8:30 to fix some kindling wood for a bath. I remember he just had his pants on, getting ready for the bath. He went back up to bathe. He couldn't have got out without my hearing him. I went to bed at 10:30, and he was in his room."

The alleged rape took place "a little after 8 o'clock," according to the Trenton Times account.

At the St. Francis Hospital, The Worker reporter talked his way past the police guard at Everitt's bedside long enough for him to hear the accused Negro say, weakly, but urgently, "I had nothing to do with it. I was home all that night."

Everitt explained he ran at the police station when the girl "recognized" him because he was afraid the police were going to "give it to me" after the accusation.

At this point, the policeman guarding Everitt returned from a check-up phone call to headquarters on my visit, and suggested I leave immediately. This ended the interview.

June 5-12-46

A visit to the police station brought a polite evasion by the desk sergeant. Half the glass-paned front door was boarded over where Everitt had fallen when shot, showing clearly he had never gotten out of the station house and must have been shot from the corridor, not too far away.

An attempt to trace the girl, unnamed by the newspaper story and the police, was unavailing, but through a neighborhood store's tip, we saw the girl's mother and stepfather. They insisted their daughter had been raped, citing the police department's physician, Dr. Miller.

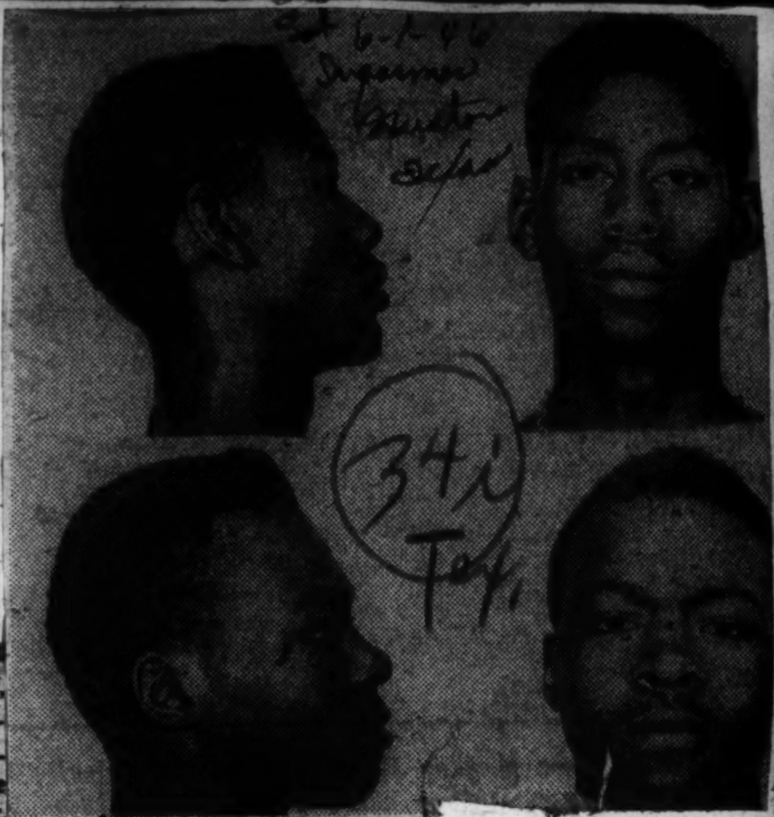
Asked as to the truth of her supposed recognition of the attacker, they said they had every reason to believe her story. They said there had been "purple marks" around her throat.

Everitt was picked up by the police in the same spot opposite the White City Skating Rink where the rape was supposed to have taken place the night before!

June 5-12-46

The Communist Party of Trenton has taken the lead in seeing that Everitt is not mobbed. They point out the long anti-Negro tradition of Hamilton Township police, with the infamous "Duck Island Killing" rap hung on a Negro, Clarence Hill. Less than a year ago the burning cross was seen in the neighborhood, which has a heavy Negro population.

A Negro storekeeper, who found out that we were from the Worker, summed it up with: "It's time this kind of trigger-happy stuff against our people was put an end to."



Sat 6-1-46 Informer Houston Texas

34i Tex.

Informer Houston Texas 6-1-46

Houston— OSCAR ROOSEVELT DAVIS and NAPOLEON TAYLOR confessed to committing a series of robberies and rapings in the neighborhood of the Cuney Homes, Blackshear school and the Negro Hospital during an interview with an Informer reporter from their cell in the County jail. The two have been charged with four cases of robbery by assault, one case of robbery by assault and rape, and one case of rape, Lt. George Seber of the homicide states.

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34i 1946

7359

Georgia

Elixson Slaying Bullet Is Found

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Sat 8-10-46

SAVANNAH, Aug. 9—(AP)—County Solicitor Andrew J. Ryan, Jr., announced Friday night that police have found the bullet which they believe killed Anthony Elixson in the car where his body was discovered.

34i

Previously, 17-year-old Betty DeLoach, a former theater usherette, told police she was with the 22-year-old city fireman and Navy veteran when he was killed by two Negroes who, she said, later assaulted her. She said Elixson was shot outside the car.

Ryan said the bullet had penetrated the upholstering of the rear seat of the car and was found in the luggage compartment. Elixson's body was found on the floor in the rear of the car, which was parked on a little-traveled road. A bullet had entered his back, ranged upward and came out through the right breast.

The girl told police she "imagined" the body had been placed in the car after the shooting. She remained under police detention Friday, but Ryan said no charges had been made against her.

Earlier Ryan quoted a woman physician who examined the girl as saying her story of the assault was "impossible."

Bullet Found In Savannah Slaying Case

News + Courier Charleston, S. C.

Sat. 8-11-46

Savannah, Aug. 9.—(AP): County Solicitor Andrew J. Ryan, Jr., announced today that police has found the bullet which they believe killed Anthony Elizson in the car where his body was discovered.

Previously, a former theater usherette, told police she was with the 22-year-old city fireman and navy veteran when he was killed by two negroes who, she said, later raped her. She said he was shot outside the car.

34i

Ryan said the bullet had penetrated the upholstering of the rear seat of the car and was found in the luggage compartment. Elixson's body was found on the floor in the rear of the car which was parked on a little traveled road. A bullet had entered his back, ranged upward and come out through the right breast.

The girl told police she "imagined" the body had been placed in the car after the shooting. She remained under police detention today, but Ryan said no charges had been made against her.

Earlier Ryan quoted a woman physician who examined the girl as saying her story of the rape was "impossible."

Negroes Kill Fireman, Attack Girl Companion

The News Birmingham, Ala.

Wed. 8-7-46

SAVANNAH, Ga. Aug. 7—(AP)—Solicitor Gen. Protem Andrew J. Ryan, Jr., said two Negroes early today attacked a 22-year-old city fireman and a 17-year-old girl companion, and after shooting the fireman to death criminally assaulted the girl.

34i

The solicitor identified the fireman as Anthony Elixson, veteran of naval service in the recent war.

Ryan, after questioning the girl, who was treated at a hospital here, gave this report:

The couple was in a parked automobile on a road in a sparsely settled section of Chatham County about 1 a.m., when the two Negroes approached. At gun point they forced Elixson from the car, led him several yards away and shot him.

Then they returned to the car, forced the girl from it and each criminally assaulted her. After the attack, they left her in the car. She walked to a farm house and called police.

Ryan identified the girl as Betty De Loach, of Savannah.

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2 Negroes Sought In Rape-Slaying

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala.

SAVANNAH, GO., Aug. 8.—(AP)—A 22-year-old city fireman, recently released from the Navy, was found shot to death on a secluded road near here yesterday and a 17-year-old girl companion said he was shot by two Negroes who later raped her.

34i

Solicitor General and Rew J. Ryan, Jr., said the girl, Betty DeLoach, told him she was seated in a car with the fireman, Anthony Elixson, about 1 a.m., when Negroes, armed with a rifle or shotgun, approached and demanded Elixson's money.

Elixson, she said, got out of the car, and gave one of the Negroes a dollar saying that was all the money he had. The other Negro then got in the car and held her while Elixon, at gun point, was marched along the road in front of the car.

Then the girl said she heard a shot. The Negro who had marched Elixon away from the car then returned and both dragged her to the side of the road. In the interm, she said, one of the Negroes returned to the car and she heard another shot.

8-8-46

After the rape, the Negroes left her and she returned to the car where she sat until daylight when she went to a house and called police, Ryan quoted her as saying.

Girl Says 2 Negroes Killed Georgia Vet, Then Raped Her

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

Thurs 8-8-46

Savannah, Ga., Aug. 7 (AP)—A 22-year-old City fireman, recently released from the Navy, was found shot to death on a secluded road near here today, and a 17-year-old girl companion said he was shot by two Negroes who later raped her.

34i

Solicitor General Andrew J. Ryan, Jr., said the girl, Betty DeLoach, told him she was seated in a car with the fireman, Anthony Elixson, about 1 a.m. when the Negroes, armed with a rifle or shotgun, approached and demanded Elixson's money.

Tells of Return to Auto.

Elixson, she said, got out of the car, and gave one of the Negroes a dollar, saying that was all the money he had. The other Negro then got in the car and held her while Elixson, at gun point, was marched along the road in front of the car.

Then the girl said she heard a shot. The Negro who had marched Elixson away returned and both dragged her to the side of the road where each raped her twice, she reported. In the interim, she said, one of the Negroes returned to the car and she heard another shot.

Thurs 8-8-46

Body Found In Car.

The Negroes then left her and she returned to the car, where she sat until daylight, when she went to a house and called police, Ryan quoted her as saying.

Ryan said the body of the young fireman was found on the floor in the rear of the car. There was no sign, he said, of the body having been dragged there. Both back doors of the car were shut.

Georgia Girl Held After Story of Murder, Attack Discredited

News-Sentinel Knoxville, Tenn.

Thurs. 8-8-46

Prosecutor Says Doctor Spikes Claims of Brunette, 17, Who Blamed Negroes for Killing of Navy Veteran Boy Friend

34i

By United Press

SAVANNAH, Ga. Aug. 8—Pretty Betty DeLoach, 17, was held "for investigation" here today after physicians discounted her story of being criminally assaulted by two Negroes who had killed her Navy veteran boy friend.

Solicitor General pro tem A. J. Ryan Jr., said he ordered the vivacious brunette held after a doctor had examined her and announced that "criminal assault could not have happened."

Miss DeLoach told police yesterday that she had been assaulted four times by two men who robbed and killed her companion, 22-year-old Anthony Elixson, Savannah fireman, after they had parked on a lonely, wooded Chatham County road near here.

She said one of the men got in the car and held her. The other marched Elixson off down the road at gun's point. She said shortly afterward she heard a shot and the man returned, dragging Elixson's body, and shoved it into the back of the car.

The girl said after the men released her she dazedly crawled into the car and remained there until daybreak. She said she reached into the back of the car, over Elixson's body and obtained a pair of bathing trunks. She put them on and left the car on foot.

She was clad in the bathing suit and a blouse when she appeared at the home of H. L. Lanigan about a half-mile from the scene at around 6 a. m. Miss DeLoach told police that the five-hour lapse between Elixson's death and her appearance at Lanigan's home was caused by the fact that she couldn't find her way back to the

Ryan's version clashed with that of the girl. He said Elixson had apparently been killed in the car. He said there was no evidence that Elixson's body had been dragged and placed in the car.

Ryan also said he had learned that Elixson and "another boy had quarreled over some girl last week.

"And at that time," he said, "Miss DeLoach had promised the boy a date next Tuesday night." Ryan said she warned him to be "sure and come alone."

Police said there was no sign of any racial disturbances here although the girl's story had been widely circulated.

Chatham County Girl Sticks to Her Story

Constitution

Atlanta, Ga. Fri 8-9-46

SAVANNAH, Aug. 8—(AP)—A 17-year-old former theater usherette stuck Thursday to her claim that two Negroes killed her male companion and assaulted her, despite a statement from the County Solicitor that a woman physician who examined her termed the story "impossible."

34i

Fri 8-9-46

The Solicitor, Andrew J. Ryan, Jr., quoted the physician, Dr. Helen A. Sharpley, as saying there were no bruises or scratches on the girl's body.

Ryan said the girl was detained at the Woman's Division of the Police Department, but he emphasized no charges had been filed.

The body of Anthony Elixson, 22-year-old city fireman, who, the girl said was her companion, was found in an automobile parked on a lonely road near here Wednesday.

The girl told police he had been marched away from the car and shot by a Negro while another Negro held her. Then, she said, both Negroes assaulted her.

Ryan said the body was found on the rear floor of the car with a bullet hole through the shoulder and that there was no sign of a struggle. Neatly piled at the spot where the girl said she had been attacked, Ryan said, were her slacks and moccasins.

Fri 8-9-46

The girl, clad in men's bathing trunks and a blouse, called police shortly after daybreak from a house on the outskirts of the city. She said after the Negroes left, she returned to the car, and after sitting there for a while got the trunks which had belonged to Elixson from the rear seat and walked to the house.

Ryan quoted her as saying she "imagined" the body had been placed in the car after the shooting.

EXPOSE FAKE RAPE STORY; GA. OFFICIALS INVESTIGATING

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Fri 8-9-46

34i

A faked lynch-inciting rape story was exposed by investigating officers yesterday in Savannah, Ga.

Seventeen-year-old white Betty Deloach, who had been arrested twice recently on disorderly conduct charges involving older men, had claimed that about 1 a.m. on Aug. 5 she was raped by two Negro robbers, one of whom shot and killed her boy friend, 22-year-old Anthony Elison, a Savannah fireman and Navy veteran.

The story was headlined luridly in Georgia papers, and reporters in droves rushed to Savannah from Monroe where they were covering the "duller" story of the mass lynching of four Negroes.

Doctors examined Miss Deloach and found she could not have been raped. Elison's body was found in his bloodstained car, with no evidence that it had been dragged in from the road, as the girl had testified. Fri 8-9-46

Savannah Solicitor General A. J. Ryan said he was investigating every angle but that no arrests had been made and no charges filed against the girl. An earlier report that the girl was under arrest for falsely accusing the Negroes caused a congratulatory telegram to be sent Ryan by the National Equal Rights League here.

FIREMAN IS SLAIN IN SOUTH

Times New York, N.Y.

Girl Companion Says 2 Negroes Shot Him, Then Attacked Her

34i

SAVANNAH, Ga., Aug. 7 (AP)—A 22-year-old city fireman, recently released from the Navy, was found shot to death on a secluded road near here today, and a 17-year-old girl companion said he was shot by two Negroes who later assaulted her.

Solicitor General Andrew J. Ryan Jr. said the girl, Betty Deloach, told him that she was seated in a car with the fireman, Anthony Elixson, about 1 A. M., when the Negroes, armed with a rifle or shotgun, approached and demanded Elixson's money. Thurs. 8-8-46

Elixson, she said, got out of the car, and gave one of the Negroes a dollar, saying that was all the money he had. The other Negro then got in the car and held her while Elixson, at gun point, was marched along the road in front of the car.

Then the girl said she heard a shot. The Negro who had marched Elixson away from the car then returned and both dragged her to the side of the road where each attacked her twice, she reported.

Savannah Story Changes— It's White Killers Now

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Fri. 10-25-46

34r

SAVANNAH, Ga. — (SNS) — The young white woman who previously declared two Negroes killed her escort and attacked her told police a different story Wednesday. This time the killers were identified as white youths who lived next door to her home.

Anthony Elixon, 22-year-old white city fireman was slain on the night of August 7. His body was found in an autimobile on a lonely road near here.

Solocitor General Andrew J. Ryan Jr., said the girl declared she had withheld identification of the two youths because they had threatened to kill her if she informed police of their identity.

The white girl's identification of the two white youths followed 10 weeks of investigation by Ryan, police and Georgia Bureau of Investigation agents.

Solicitor General Ryan said the girl identified the youths, both about 20 years old and told about the same story of the killing that she related at first. In her first version she said two Negroes approached the car in which she and Elixon were seated about 1 a. m. One of the men forced Elixon to walk down the road while the other held her in the car. She said there was a shot and she was then dragged from the car and attacked twice by each man.

The Solicitor said the white youths denied any connection with the killing. Ryan said, however, that evidence gathered by officers pointed toward one of the youths before the girl made the identification.

After her statement, the white girl was returned to jail where she is being held for medical treatment.

'Negro Killer' Hoax Exposed

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

34

Another "Negro killer" roundup frameup has been exposed at Savanah, Ga., by a 17-year-old girl's confession that it was white men, not Negroes, who killed her boy friend. Mon. 10-28-46

The girl said the slain man, Anthony Ellixton, was with her in an automobile in a lonely wooded section when the men forced him from the car. They then coached her into giving the "Negroes-did-it" story, threatening to kill her otherwise.

Savannah Ga. News
Sept. 26, 1946

Would-be Attacker Sought in Atlanta

34

ATLANTA, Sept. 25 (AP).—An intensive police search was organized today for a negro man who shortly after midnight threatened to assault a young woman and shot her male companion.

Patrolman T. J. Kennon identified the woman as Miss Bobbie Simmons, 21, of Georgia Baptist Hospital, and her companion as Travis W. Fain, 28, of nearby Ben Hill. Fain was wounded in the left shoulder.

The policeman said Fain told this story:

Fain and Miss Simmons were seated in a parked automobile in front of the hospital when the negro, with a gun in his hand, approached, and ordered the back door of the car opened. He then got in and forced Fain to drive into an alley near the hospital.

The negro then demanded that Miss Simmons get on the back seat with him. A struggle followed durin

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Medic Blasts White Girl's Attack Tale

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 8-17-46

34

SAVANNAH, Ga. — Charges made by a 17-year-old white girl that she had been criminally assaulted by two men who previously had killed her 22-year-old companion were branded as "impossible" by a physician after an examination here on Aug. 8.

The girl, Betty Deloach, who later admitted having "imagined" part of her story, was held by police. The examining physician reported that there were no scratches or bruises on her body to substantiate the story.

No Charges Against Men

The body of her companion, Anthony Elickson, was found in an automobile on a lonely road near here the day before. Solicitor General Andrew J. Ryan Jr. stated emphatically that no charges had been made against the two men whose names were not revealed.

names were not revealed.

According to the girl, the two approached the car and one forced Elickson to walk down the road.

After a shot, she added, the man returned to the car. She was then dragged to the side of the road where each attacked her twice, she added. The Afro-American

She said further that one returned to the car in the interim and that she heard a shot. Although they left after the alleged attack, she stayed in the car until daybreak, clad only in a man's bathing suit when she telephoned the police. Baltimore, Md.

34

No Evidence of Force

Announcing her detention, Solicitor General Ryan said that there was no evidence that the man's body had been dragged into the car and that the girl, told of police findings, said she "imagined" the pair had put it ther.

In addition, Ryan said that her clothes were neatly piled on the seat at the spot where she said she was assulated and that a safety pin was substituted for a button [illegible]ened Sat. 8-17-46

34i 1946

Illinois

7360

Parolee charged with rape of two minors

CHICAGO—Oliver Thomas, 29, on parole from a hospital where he was confined for a sex offense, was held by police there last week and charged with the rape of two girls, one 9 years old and the other 8. Thomas, an interior decorator, admitted the rape of the 9-year-old girl and told police that he loses control of his emotions when he is intoxicated.

34i

34i 1946

Kentucky

7361

Kentuckian Faces Rape Charges Called Fantastic

Defender
Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 8-31-46

34i

COVINGTON, Ky.—Richard B. Mason, Negro of this city, famous for its conviction of Negroes on rape charges in the last decade, is being held under $10,000 bond by the county sheriff on what the NAACP terms "one of the most fantastic rape cases on record."

According to the Cincinnati NAACP, asked to defend him by the prisoner's wife, Mason, on Aug. 10 at 4 a.m., is alleged to have used a gun to compel Mrs. Pauline Kelly and a former marine, Robert Shambach, both white, to go into an alley where he tied them, threw a pair of swimming trunks over the woman's head and attacked her.

The swimming trunks were found in the back of the couple's car, according to the sheriff, and the accused attacker also left his pistol which turned out to be a toy. Mason voluntarily went to the police after hearing that they wanted "to see him." Identification was made by Mrs. Kelley, although he was the only suspect she viewed.

Rape Suspect Held

34i

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

William [illegible] Owens, 30, Negro, 607 S. 10th, was identified by a 51-year-old woman yesterday as the man who raped and robbed her at 7 a.m. Thursday in an alley between Brook, Gray, First and Second. He was arrested at 5:40 a.m. at Brook and Broadway. Owens denied the charge.

8-23-46

7362

Woman Victim Of Attempted Rape In Loew's Theater

The Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.
Sat. 11-9-46

(34i) La.

Topping off a long list of alleged complaints lodged against the Loew's State Theater this week was a woman's charge that she was the victim of an attempted rape in the woman's rest room of the downtown movie house.

The woman's name is withheld at her request. In a statement to the NAACP she said she had gone into the rest room and was met there by a man who grabbed her roughly about the throat, forcing her to the floor. The woman talked the man into carrying her into the outer room of the lounge, making it possible for someone sitting near the door to hear her screams.

As the man started unbuttoning his trousers the woman began to fight and scream. Several persons rushed into the room and the man, described as chunky and dark-skinned, fled down a rear stair.

The woman said the manager of the theater accompanied by police told her not to report the incident since the attack actually failed. No police report was filed.

Answering this shirking of duty by a city policeman, Daniel E. Byrd, executive secretary of the New Orleans NAACP, in a letter to superintendent of police A. A. Watters, said, "It is the sworn duty of the policeman to enforce the law impartially, since the policeman referred to in this complaint is guilty of an attempt to suppress justice we respectfully request that an immediate investigation be launched and that the most severe penalty possible be placed upon the policeman for his attempt to suppress justice in one of the most heinous crimes known to society."

After the incident the woman required medical treatment for her injured throat.

Lodge Second Protest Against N. O. Police "Dragnet" Methods

The Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.

(34 i) La.

In an exchange of correspondence relative to the recent assault upon Mrs. Geraldine Tate age 27, of 1310 St. Peter St. by an unknown Negro man while she was in the Colored dressing room of the Loew's State Theatre, in which Rodney Toups, the manager, denied that an attempt was made to have the matter hushed after Mrs. Tate reported the incident to police, was again protested by Daniel E. Byrd, Executive Secretary of the NAACP in a second letter to Superintendent A. A. Watters. Sat. 12-7-46

The second protest deals with the denial of the manager of the Theatre that Mrs. Tate was given any assistance and reported the incident to the police.

The letter in full is as follows:

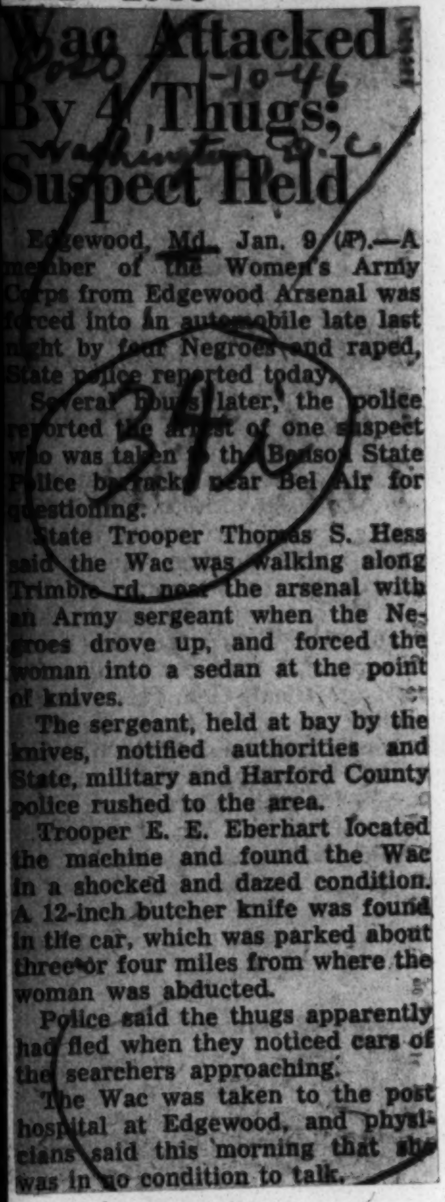
"It is surprising to know that so much emphasis is placed upon the words "CARRIED DOWN THE STAIRS." In the broader sense of the word "CARRIED" it can mean to lead or conduct. Mrs. Tate also used the word "CARRIED" in her statement to me but I questioned her and discovered that she really meant that she was assisted down the stairs.

"Captain Dowie reported that R. D. Toups stated that a guard was on duty from the Pendleton Agency to prevent a recurrence of Mrs. Tate's experience. I am in receipt of a letter dated October 31, 1946 in which R. D. Toups says there is no need for the service of any guard.

341 1946

Maryland

7363



Wac Attacked By 4 Thugs; Suspect Held

Post 1-10-46

Washington D.C.

34a

Edgewood, Md., Jan. 9 (AP).—A member of the Women's Army Corps from Edgewood Arsenal was forced into an automobile late last night by four Negroes and raped, State police reported today.

Several hours later, the police reported the arrest of one suspect who was taken to the Benson State Police barracks near Bel Air for questioning.

State Trooper Thomas S. Hess said the Wac was walking along Trimble rd. near the arsenal with an Army sergeant when the Negroes drove up, and forced the woman into a sedan at the point of knives.

The sergeant, held at bay by the knives, notified authorities and State, military and Harford County police rushed to the area.

Trooper E. E. Eberhart located the machine and found the Wac in a shocked and dazed condition. A 12-inch butcher knife was found in the car, which was parked about three or four miles from where the woman was abducted.

Police said the thugs apparently had fled when they noticed cars of the searchers approaching.

The Wac was taken to the post hospital at Edgewood, and physicians said this morning that she was in no condition to talk.

7364

Vet's Wife Says Janitor
ed Her to 'Marry' Him

-Dispatch

, July 15—(UP)—The
of a Navy veteran
rt today how an elderly
nitor held her prisoner
for a week until she
go through a marriage
with him.

auline Kenney of Belfast,
-year-old white woman
of one child, said the
was performed at five
after midnight by a Negro

Mass.

ccused grey-haired Clar-
right, 70, of holding her
and beating her with a
until she agreed to "marry"
right pleaded innocent be-
strict Judge Samuel Eisen-
to charges of rape, adultery,
ssault and battery, and was
d held in $6,000 bail for trial
nday.

Kenney was freed yester-
ter scribbling a note plead
rescue "before I die," and
it to a visitor in the
basement apartment. The
immediately took the not
ice, who forced their way
the apartment and arre

Times

Returned for Lighter

young mother said she f
right July 5 when she an
le companion visited hi
to play cards. The follow-
y, she said, she returned
tor's apartment to pick up
arette lighter, which she
gotten.

Negro refused to let her
claring he was "madly in
with her and wanted to
her, according to Mrs.
[illegible] at his
said, Wright locked her
llar storage room, bare
or a flimsy mattress.
day for a week, she said,
would come to see her
and would renew his
marriage. Each refusal
part brought another beat-
[illegible]

y fearful that she would
d if she persisted, Mrs.
agreed to marry the

ood Test Made

then summoned the
who gave the couple a
and returned three days
perform the ceremony
o'clock in the apart-
ad struck 12.
marriage certificate was
in court as evidence, and
noted that Mrs. Kenney
it "Rose Dechene."
admitted marrying
, but hotly denied her
cusations. He said she
to him seeking shelter
not told him she had
Mrs. Kenney had

come to Boston to work during her husband's absence in the service. She is the mother of an eight-year-old boy.

341

Janitor Who Wed Tenant Indicted

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Minister Who Read Rites, Bride Freed

341

BOSTON, Mass.—The Suffolk Co. Grand Jury returned indictments charging Clarence Wright, 57, of Newbury St., a janitor, with morals offenses and assault on a white woman who said she had been "kidnapped" and forced through a marriage ceremony with him.

No bill was returned, however, in the case of the woman, Mrs. Pauline Kenney, 28, of West Newton St., South End. Sat. 8-24-46

Estranged From Husband

Estranged from her Army vet husband and their 8-year-old son in Belfast, Me., for five years, Mrs. Kenney had been held on an idle and disorderly conduct charge.

341

Acquitted by the Grand Jury was Dr. Johnson Hill of Massachusetts Ave., who together with Wright had been held in the lower court on a charge of conspiracy to violate the marriage laws.

Mass.

Testimony at a previous hearing in Roxbury District Court indicated a vast complexity of circumstances preceeding the midnight marriage into which Mrs. Kenney says she was forced. Afro-American

It was brought out that she had frequented the janitor's apartment for several weeks, much of her clothing was there, and no sex act was consumated between the two until after the marriage. Baltimore, Md.

Action Confounds Observers

Observers were then confounded when the court held Wright guilty of rape, adultery, and assault and battery. Sat.

It was pointed out that the rape charge would violate the common law which states a man cannot rape his wife, the adultery charge is impossible against one of the principals unless also charged against the other and that the woman bore no scars though allegedly struck 20 times with a broomstick a few days before. 8-24-46

Absolve Janitor Charged With Rape

The Defender

Chicago, Ill. Sat

BOSTON, Mass. — Clarence Wright, 63, Negro janitor, who was charged with rape and assault and battery on a woman who accused him of holding her captive in his apartment, was absolved this week by a Suffolk Superior Court jury.

341

Assistant District Attorney Edward M. Sullivan requested the jury to return a directed verdict for the defendant. He asserted that Mrs. Pauline Kennedy "lied" in her testimony that Wright held her forcibly in his basement apartment and made her go through a mock marriage ceremony. 10-19-46

Wright pleaded guilty to a third charge of adultery, but the court took no action on that count.

7365

Young Woman Tells Rape Story To Cops

Chronicle Detroit, Mich.

A 21-year-old woman told police that a man she had met in a John R eating place, and with whom she had several drinks, forced her into his bathroom at [illegible] Edinboro apartments where he assaulted her.

She told police that the man followed her out of the cafe, forced her to accompany him to his apartment, offered her drinks and when she attempted to leave raped her.

34i Mich.

Flint Girl, 9, Is Assault Victim

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 10-26-46

FLINT. — A nine-year-old girl told police that she had been beaten and raped by an unidentified assailant as she was returning home from a St. John street grocery store last Monday.

Police learned that the assailant muffled her outcries with his hand and then dragged her behind a building at 3619 St. John.

The girl received treatment at Hurley Hospital. She told police the man had bought some cup cakes and dropped a quarter into her sack of groceries.

34i Mich

University of Detroit Halfback Held for Rape of 2 Women

The Courier Journal Louisville, Ky. Sun. 9-22-46

Detroit, Sept. 21 (U.P.)—Separate warrants recommended by the County prosecutor's office today charged Guy F. Brown, 21-year-old star Negro halfback of the University of Detroit football team, with the rape of two white women.

'Athlete of the Year.'

Brown, a freshman sensation last year, was expected to be the backfield mainstay of his team this year and last spring was voted "athlete of the year" at the university.

Prosecutor Gerald K. O'Brien said one of the warrants was issued earlier by Recorders Judge George Murphy and the second would be issued Monday.

The first warrant also accused Brown of robbing a 21-year-old white woman whom he was accused of raping as she returned home from her job as a downtown theater cashier last August 28.

Brown was arrested in a theater late yesterday shortly before the kickoff at the U. of D. game with Wayne University in which he was to have been the starting left halfback. Police said he admitted stealing the purses of two women in the theater.

Identified By Two.

Today he was pointed out by two women who police said identified him as their assailant.

The second warrant accused Brown of dragging a 23-year-old woman into the yard of a home and raping her at the point of a butcher knife.

O'Brien said Brown denied the [illegible] charges.

34i Mich.

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while she was visiting at 4040 Tireman and took her to a nearby tavern where they had a few drinks.

The suspect was arrested and held for investigation by Detective Lieut. Wallace S. Williams and Detective Jesse Stewart who were assigned to the case by the special investigation squad.

Mich

Grid Star Accused In Second Assault

The News Birmingham, Ala. Mon. 9-23-46

DETROIT, Sept. 23—(AP)—Wayne County Prosecutor Gerald K. O'Brien today authorized a new warrant charging the University of Detroit's Negro football star, Guy Brown, 21, with the rape of a second white woman.

Recorder's Judge George Murphy Saturday signed a warrant accusing Brown of attacking a theater cashier Aug. 28.

The new charge relates to an attack on a 23-year-old woman Sept. 18.

The Manhattan, Kan., Negro, a three-sport star at the university, has denied the charges.

The third-year sociology student, selected as "Athlete of the Year" at the University of Detroit in 1945, is held without bail. He was arrested last Friday night on a purse-snatching charge, a few hours before he was to have participated in the Detroit-Wayne University football game.

34i Mich

Girl Charges She Was Raped On Belle Isle

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich

Two men, one 46 and the other 25, were held last week on assault charges on the complaint of two women.

34i Mich

Hugh Oliver McDowell, 46, of 1557 E. Alexandrine was charged with assault with intent to rape after he is alleged to have forced a married woman into an automobile. Sat. 10-26-46

Gilbert Braxton was charged with statutory rape on a 14-year-old girl at Belle Isle on last Sept. 19. Braxton is now serving a sentence for violation of his parole on a charge of larceny from a store, so police records disclosed.

Police Nab Youth As Rape Suspect

The Chronicle Detroit Mich Sat. 9-28-46

The alertness of two police officers resulted in the arrest last week of a [illegible]-year-old youth held for investigation of rape and robbery on the complaint of a 42-year-old Cleveland visitor.

Police charge Oakie Thaxton, [illegible] Hivard, met the complainant

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False Attack Story Costs Detroit Woman 15-Day Jail Sentence

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Sat. 11-23-46

DETROIT — A 24-year-old white woman, Mrs. June Shukart, was sentenced to serve 15 days in the Detroit House of Correction on Nov. 13 for her false story on Nov. 2 when she told police that she was kidnapped and assaulted by two men.

34i Mich.

The woman said that she made the false report to her mother after having been on an all-night party.

Judge Paul E. Krause, who passed sentence also imposed probation for two years, and said that the reason that he did not give a more severe penalty is "because the woman is expecting a child."

So Very Sorry, Not Attacked, Needed An Alibi

The Mich. Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 11-9-46

A fabricated story told to police by Miss June Shukit, 24-year-old white waitress, of being kidnaped, stripped, robbed and raped by two Negroes in a woods at Eight Mile and Meyers Roads was confessed as false Monday. Her story set off a posse hunt for suspects in the area Saturday night.

34i Mich

Miss Shukit admitted to the police that she made up the tale to give an account to her mother for being out on an all-night party.

Out On Bender

She added further that she had been making a round of cabarets with two men. She said that they had driven with her to Eight Mile and Meyers rds. and left her when the car became stuck.

She was released to appear Wednesday at 8:45 a.m. to make a formal statement at police headquarters.

A false report on a felony charge may be lodged against her.

Mothers Lodge Charges Against Man For Acts

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 9-7-46

Two warrants recommended this week by the prosecutor's office charge 32-year-old Joseph Lester, 2054 Twenty-second, committed an immoral act upon two teen-age mothers of two children during a one week period.

34i

Police disclosed that an 18-year-old mother was picked up by Lester who took her to a vacant lot near Central and St. Joseph where she was made the victim of the man's desires.

A few days later a 19-year-old mother of two children told police that she was in a car with Lester and another couple and that the suspect drove to Rouge park and committed an indecent act upon her as she started on her way home.

Police are searching for a bold young man who entered a woman's home, forced her to accompany him from the house, then returned to the house with her and assaulted her.

The young woman told police that after being taken from her home, the thug tore off her clothes, bound, gagged and blindfolded her before returning her home where she was assaulted.

QUIZ SUSPECT IN EAST SIDE SEX SLAYINGS

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 9-7-46

Police are continuing to question suspects in an attempt to solve two recent rape-deaths and clear up scores of rape attacks on lone women who are on the streets in the early morning hours.

34i Mich

A writ was made returnable next Wednesday on behalf of Ulysses Jones, 31-year-old unemployed laborer, arrested this week by Wayne Police Chief Lawrence C. Knox.

Jones is expected to be viewed by women who have been victims of rape attacks during the past few weeks.

Jones was arrested after police had broadcast a description of the rape-slayer in a state-wide hunt for the murderer of two women found dead in the Eastside vicinity several weeks ago.

Reports Attack Try

A 34-year-old woman who was walking with a 46-year-old woman companion told police that a man followed them from John R. and Forest to Hastings where the thug attempted to strangle the younger woman by putting a piece of hose around her neck.

The thug escaped after the older woman tripped him as he molested her companion.

A short time later a man answering the same description as the one above was accused of snatching the purse of a 24-year-old woman who was walking near Custer and Melrose Friday.

A 15-year-old girl told police that her screams frightened away an intruder who entered her bedroom early Sunday morning and threatened her with a gun.

She quoted the man as saying, "I've got a gun. Don't scream or I'll blow your head off."

However, the young girl did scream and awakened her father. Meanwhile the thug escaped.

Family Retains Faith In Brown, Accused Of Rape

Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 9-28-46

By GRAYCE L. SADLER

"The good press notices given to Guy's clean-living and athletic prowess prior to Friday represent the real Guy," said Guy Brown's sister, Mrs. Mary Cunningham, [illegible] Alfred, Monday afternoon in an interview with the Chronicle.

Present also in the small cozy Cunningham apartment was Mrs. Vada Brown, pregnant wife of the U. of D. grid star, filled with silent suffering as she sought refuge from reporters, flashbulbs, and curiosity seekers.

Though reluctant to discuss the charges against Brown, both the wife and sister stressed emphatically their belief that Guy is innocent of the horrible sex charges of which he has been accused.

34i Mich

Mrs. Cunningham explained her reluctance to talk to the press by expressing her feeling that "the press was responsible for much of the damage already."

She said that she preferred no publicity on the case, for in her opinion, "Guy is the same Guy whom reams of good things have been written in the past year."

After several vain efforts to locate Mrs. Vada Brown, who was all the while resting in the comfort of her sister-in-law's apartment, we visited, Mrs. Cunningham for an interview.

When we entered the apartment, admitted by Mrs. Cunningham, nothing was given during conversation to indicate that the third woman in the room, who sat mute and staring was the wife of Guy Brown.

Search Ends

Noting that she was an expectant mother, we realized that our search for the elusive Mrs. Guy Brown was at an end.

Obviously grief-stricken and in some physical pain, Mrs. Brown confirmed her identification, and asserted that her husband could not be guilty. Beyond that she would say nothing except that she had been under the constant care of a physician since Friday.

During the brief conversation with the family of last year's "athlete of the year," it was gleaned that his sister, Mrs. Cunningham, had acted as a mother to the 21-year-old student during the two years he has spent in Detroit.

Proud Of Guy

Brown has two other sisters and two brothers in Detroit, all of whom possess great pride in their younger brother's scholastic and athletic achievements. All were non-committal on the possibility of the truth in one attorney's assertion that Guy Brown was a Dr. Jekyll-Mr. Hyde personality.

The Jekyll-Hyde theory was injected into the case when two women identified Brown (then being held for snatching two purses in the Downtown Theatre Friday) as the man who had criminally attacked and robbed them. He was then held on two charges of rape, with bonds set at $20,000 each.

Guy Brown Faces Second Trial On Assault Charges

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich. Sat. 10-12-46

Guy F. Brown, University of Detroit football star, was bound over for trial by Recorder's Judge Gerald W. Groat after a second examination on rape charges Monday.

34i Mich

An attractive 23-year-old woman apparently of good breeding, who identified Brown as the man who raped her on Boston blvd. Sept. 18 testified that she was on her way home from the theatre at about 11 p. m. that night when Brown stopped her a half block east of Woodward.

Guy Brown

Threatened With Knife

She charged that Brown held a knife at her neck and forced her behind a tree beside a private driveway. She quoted him as saying, "Keep quiet and don't scream; I don't want to hurt you."

The girl, embarrassed and on the verge of tears, bit her lip and reluctantly told the details of the incident. When it seemed impossible for her to continue, the judge called a recess. Returning to her seat, the girl burst into tears before she left the courtroom.

Brown Nervous

Brown, collegiately dressed in a sport coat and bow tie, seemed nervous throughout the examination.

Bond of $20,000 was continued on this testimony. Brown is also awaiting trial on charges of rape and larceny made by a 21-year-old woman. This examination was the second of three which he faces in connection with assault and robbery charges lodged against him since his arrest Sept. 20.

Guy Brown Bond Set At $40,000 In Rape Cases

Chronicle Detroit Mich

Sat. 9-28-46

340

By CHARLES J. WARTMAN

Calm and confident as though he were reeling off an easy gain against a football opponent, Guy Brown, University of Detroit football star, maintained Tuesday that he did not know anything about the rape and assault charges which have been brought against him since Friday evening.

Mich

"Why I don't even know when these attacks occurred," Brown exclaimed. "They won't tell me anything about them and I don't know anything about them."

Very Friendly

Dressed casually in tweed trousers and a blue sport shirt that was open over halfway down, the star athlete who had been making football history and was expected to break all pass records this year, smiled in a most friendly way when he was brought from his cell to interview the Chronicle reporter.

He appeared particularly proud and happy when he related that the president of the University of Detroit, officials of the school and Coach "Chuck" Baer of the Titans, had been to see him and had assured him that everything would be done to aid him.

Education First

Asked about his plans for the future if he is able to prove his innocence, Brown ruefully exclaimed with no little determination, "The first thing for me to do is to get out of this trouble and then I am going to finish my education. I will probably go to California, there are a lot of schools there and I know that I will be able to get along."

340

Mich

Discounting all rumors that he would have to resign from the University of Detroit, the U. of D. 1945 "Athlete of the Year" said, "I have been told by the Fathers at the school that I will not necessarily have to resign from the school if I win my case. However, they said that if I wanted to continue to play football, it might be a better idea to go away to another school."

Chronicle

At times during the conversation, Brown would stare off into space as though engrossed in thought. One time he turned suddenly and said, "Oh well, a year from now when I am somewhere else this whole mess will be forgotten."

Detroit Mich

Refused Picture

Asked why he refused to have his picture made by the Chronicle photographer on Monday, Brown said angrily, "I told those fellows that I was not going to have my picture made to put in the papers looking like this" (pointing to his clothes and his hair. "When my hearing is held next week, my wife will have brought me some clean things and I will be presentable. They may get the picture then, but they cannot take a picture of my wife."

Brown said that he felt that all of the publicity which he had received in the last two years was responsible for much of his trouble. "I have been called out for line-ups ever since I have been here, and one woman had the nerve to say that she recognized me as her assailant from seeing my picture in the paper. It is funny that nobody had not pointed me out on some of the crimes they have me charged with, long ago. My picture has been in all of the papers in Detroit for the last two years."

Sat. 9-28-46

Asked about the purse-snatching charge, the young athlete said without hesitation, "My wife was pregnant and I needed the money. I know that I could have gotten it from Lloyd Brazil or some others, but I owe them money now. I didn't want to ask them."

Treated Well

Brown said that he received good treatment in the Wayne County jail, but he was not lavish in his praise of the Detroit City jail.

A most amiable person, Brown talked freely about himself, and answered readily any questions asked him.

When the time came for the interview to end, he said, "Gee, I'm glad you came over and when I get cleaned up, send that photographer over to take the picture if you want to."

Turning and asking the guard a question he walked erect to his cell as the doors clanged shut. His manner and everything about him, made all that had happened and had been said about him, hard to believe.

Brown, 21-year-old University of Detroit football star, stood mute Monday when arraigned on two warrants charging him with common-law rape of two young women within recent weeks.

Bond was set at $20,000 each on the two warrants and an examination was set for Oct. 1 by Recorder's Judge O. Z. Ide.

Brown was accused of forcing a 23-year-old woman into an alley near Boston and Woodward last week and threatening her with a knife while he criminally assaulted her.

Remembers Brown

"I remember his face," the second young woman said after identifying him in the police show-up. She told police that Brown had dragged her into a vacant lot on Selden, threatened her and then fled with her purse containing $4.

Brown was arrested at the Downtown Theatre last Friday for investigation of taking a purse which a patron had lain in a seat next to hers.

Detectives William Stapleton and Marcus Lampe stated that Brown admitted taking the purse of Shirley Winter, 19, of 18072 Pennington. Police say the purse contained $5.

Convicted In Washington

Police also disclosed that Brown was suspected of taking a purse belonging to Mrs. Augusta Cischke, 7282 Abington. Her purse contained $3.

According to police, Brown served a six-month sentence in Bremerton, Wash., in 1944 on an assault charge, and was placed on probation January 1945 for six months for accosting a woman and that May, 1945 he was held for investigation of larceny.

Allen, Ex-Fugitive Charged With Rape

The Chronicle Detroit, Mich.

Sat. 11-9-46

340

Huddie Allen, 39, 106 Alfred, was placed on $10,000 bond (two sureties) in Recorder's Judge John P. Scallen's court last Monday when examined on charges of raping a 39-year-old woman roomer of an apartment where he resided prior to his moving to the 106 Alfred address.

Mich

Allen, according to the victim placed a knife about her throat and raped her last Oct. 19, in the apartment, where both were residents, on that date.

Allen, with the aid of Attorney Edward A. Simmons and local organizations, succeeded in beating extradition charge to Alabama in 1944, when Alabama officials sought his return on a charge of shooting a deputy sheriff.

Allen is reported to have explained that he shot the deputy sheriff after he (the sheriff) placed a gun into his back. Allen then is reported to have turned and disarmed the deputy and fired two shots into the grouhd. Later, a mob is reported to have shot him in the back several times before he escaped to Detroit.

Jail Rape Suspect On Girl's Complaint

The Chronicle Detroit Mich.

Sat. 10-5-46

340

Mich

One young man was arrested this week for investigation of rape while police seek the arrest of a second suspect in the assault attempt of a woman near Hastings and Brady this week.

Robert Herman Fitzpatrick, 2647 Hunt, was held for investigation of the rape of a 25-year-old woman who told police that she went to visit a friend and found Fitzpatrick sitting in the room armed with a butcher knife.

According to Detective Warren Taylor, Fitzpatrick chased the young woman, caught her when she ran out to the street and then carried her back into the house where he assaulted her.

Fitzpatrick was later arrested by Hunt st. detectives.

A 42-year-old woman told police that she was walking near Hastings and Brady when an unidentified man knocked her down and attempted to rape her.

7367

Negro Still Sought

The News Birmingham, Ala.

PASCAGOULA, Miss., Aug. 27—(AP)—Sheriff D. P. Newman, of Jackson County, said he was working on "several other clues" today in the search for a Negro wanted for criminally assaulting a white woman near Escatawpa.

34i

The sheriff indicated that the two day search with bloodhounds of swamps near the scene of the attack had been abandoned. He did not disclose the nature of the new clues. Tues. 8-27-46

Leonard Cunningham, a Jackson County resident, reported to the sheriff that a Negro boarded a car in which he and the young woman were riding Saturday night, forced Cunningham to drive into the woods where the Negro robbed him and assaulted the woman.

Posse, Bloodhounds Search For Negro

The News Birmingham, Ala.

Mon. 8-26-46

ESCATAWPA, Miss., Aug. 26—(AP)—Officers used bloodhounds today in an effort to pick up the trail of a Negro Leonard Cunningham reported robbed him and raped his 20-year-old companion yesterday.

34i

Deputy Sheriff J. W. Collum quoted Cunningham as saying the Negro jumped on the running board of his automobile, stuck a pistol in his side and forced him to drive into a wood.

The young woman was taken to a hospital at Pascagoula. Hospital attendants reported her condition as "fair."

Negro Is Sought For Attack In Mississippi

The Advertiser Montgomery, Ala.

Mon. 8-26-46

ESCATAWPA, MISS., Aug. 25—(AP)—A 20-year-old Mississippi woman was raped and her companion, Leonard Cunningham was robbed near here early today by a Negro who jumped onto the running board of Cunningham's automobile and forced him to drive into the woods. 8-26-46

34i

Delta State Negro Faces Second Trial On Attack

The Advertiser Montgomery, Ala.

Thurs. 10-10-46

LAUREL, MISS., Oct. 9.—(AP)—For the second time in a year, Willie McGee, 29-year-old Negro truck driver, is scheduled to be tried here next Monday on a charge of raping a Laurel white housewife last Nov. 2.

34i

And if State troops are used to protect the frightened defendant from possible mob violence, his second trial will be only one of several appearances of McGee in the Jones County court flanked by a half hundred soldiers.

For the past three days McGee has been escorted to Laurel from the Hinds county jail at Jackson by troops for the taking of testimony on a motion filed by his counsel for a change of venue.

Along toward dusk he was returned to Jackson each night.

Today, at conclusion of the hearing, Circuit Judge F. Burkitt Collins accepted the State's showing that "a fair and impartial trial" can be held here, and overruled the change of venue motion.

The judge then set the trial for Oct. 14 and fixed 1:30 p.m., Friday as the time for hearing any further motions from defense, McGee was ordered returned for the Friday hearing, when his counsel indicated another sanity test would be sought.

Just prior to McGee's first trial last December, a jury found him sane. He was placed on trial and convicted of rape by another jury which deliberated two and one-half minutes. His trial lasted only one day.

Judge Collins sentenced McGee to die in the electric chair on Jan. 7 but the Mississippi Supreme Court granted a new trial on appeal.

The supreme court held then that a change of venue is justified "where it is shown that the public is so aroused against accused that it is necessary to call out the militia, or otherwise protect him from violence, or remove him from the county."

McGee is alleged to have entered the white woman's home here early on the morning of Nov. 2, 1945, and attacked her. He was arrested two days later.

POLICE NAB MAN ACCUSED OF RAPE AND ROBBERY

Eleventh District Police held Thomas E. Fledge, 34, 3009 Lawton avenue, on the complaint of Carol Lee, 26, 4040 Olive street, that he threatened her with a knife, raped her and robbed her of $5.00 last Friday in [illegible] way, between Washington avenue and Olive street. After the alleged attack the Lee woman pointed Fledge out to a passerby who with the aid of five others captured him in front of 4055 Olive street as he was attempting to make his escape. Fledge denied the charges, but was held pending the issuance of the warrants.

34i

rape

CHILD ACCUSES RADIO REPAIRMAN

St. Louis Missouri

William Famber, 52, 12 N. Jefferson avenue, was accused of rape by a ten-year-old girl, Sammie Lee Gaither, the daughter of Mrs. Amanda Gaither, 2601 Chouteau avenue. Mrs. Gaither complained to police that Famber, a radio repairman had come to her home last Sunday morning to fix her radio. She left him there as she had to go to church. Just as she boarded the street car, she noticed her youngest children running across the street. She got off the car to ascertain what was wrong and by the time she returned home, Famber was gone. Her ten year old daughter, told her that Famber had given the younger children money to go get ice cream and after they left he accosted her. The child was taken to Homer G. Phillips Hospital where she was treated. Famber was arrested by police, who held him pending issuance of a warrant for rape.

34i

rape

Two rapists held on $25,000 bond

Tribune Los Angeles Calif.

Sat. 9-7-46

ST. LOUIS — Twenty-five thousand dollars was set here last week as the bond for two men, Williams Hayes, 25, ex-cab driver, and William Cartwright, 21, tavern operator, who are accused of having assaulted a woman passenger (white) in August.

Although the victim has made positive identification of the pair as her assailants, both Hayes and Cartwright have entered pleas of not guilty. Hayes is also scheduled to face trial this month on similar charges in another case.

34i

rape

341 1946

New Jersey

7368

Daily Worker

Atlanta, Ga.

Free 3 Suspects As Girl Changes Story

ELIZABETH CITY, N. J.—(ANP)—Three Negro suspects, two of whom had been tracked to their homes by bloodhounds and arrested were released from jail here last Saturday, when Virginia Layden, white high school senior, signed a written statement confessing her story of being assaulted by an unknown assailant in her home three days before, to be false. Tues.

349

The three men were lodged in jail after a hue and cry had been raised over the alleged assault and state highway patrolmen had been called out to assist county and city officials in apprehending the "unidentified suspect." Bloodhounds, procured from an adjoining county somehow picked up the scent of two of the men and tracked them to their homes. 10-29-46

According to police officials, the girl and her boy friend, a wounded veteran, had just returned from Norfolk and stopped in a local cafe. The boy friend, becoming jealous of the attention she paid other men started an argument as they were enroute to her sister's home and the fight began. Tues. Daily World

The girl, however, refused to name the boy friend and declared, "I'm not going to testify against him if you pick him up."

Girl, 15

Man, 28, Held In Rape Death Admits Charge

Amsterdam News

Charged with the Feb. 2 rape-slaying of Rose Palermo, 15-year-old junior high school graduate of lessthan a week, William Washington, 28, 1982 Pacific St., Brooklyn is scheduled to have a hearing in Kings County Felony Court next Thursday, June 13. Washington was arraigned last Thursday before Magistrate Fawcett. Sat. 6-1-46

341

The suspect is accused of acting in concert with Arthur Johnson, 21, 2062 Fulton St., also Brooklyn, serving a term on Rikers Island for attempting to attack a young girl shortly after the slaying of the Palermo girl. Detective Frank Kierana, of the Liberty Ave. Station, on information obtained by District Attorney Miles F. McDonald, went to the home of Washington Wednesday night and arrested him. 6-8-46 Sat.

N.Y.

Washington's statement, according to the police, it that he and Washington grabbed Miss Palermo, as she was on her way home from a dance, and pulled her into the hallway of a vacant house at 16 Louis Pl. Washington said that he waited outside of the house after leaving Johnson and the girl alone. Johnson is said t have come out a few minutes later and told his friend, "I killed her." At press time no charge had been made against Johnson. New York

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Two Attack Girls; Held in High Bail

Two youths, each 18 years old, were held in high bail last week by Magistrate [illegible], Felony Court, charged with raping two young girls.

341

James Small charged with raping an eight year old girl at 3 p.m. on May 15, was held in $2,500 bail. Jarn De Vito of A.S.P.C.C. charged that Small criminally assaulted the child in the premises of his home, 1702 Amsterdam av. New York.

N.Y.

Second rape in the Tuesday session was charged to Steve Mitchell of 2193 8 av. He is alleged to have raped a fifteen year old girl sometime before March 15 at the 8 av address. N.Y.

$50,000 Bail Set on Negro Here

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 9-4-46

Judge Joseph D'Andrea of the Ridgewood Felony Court yesterday bound James Johnson over to the grand jury on charges of assault, robbery, and attempted rape. His bail was fixed at $50,000.

341

Johnson was arrested Aug. 25 and accused of attacking Gloria Palerno, an 18-year-old girl student, in a driveway behind 82-47 164th Place, Jamaica. He was at first booked on rape, but the charge was later changed to attempted rape.

> "Excessive bail shall not be required." — Eighth Amendment, U.S. Constitution.

N.Y.

At the hearing yesterday Miss Palerno said Johnson grabbed her and dragged her around a corner and into the drive, a distance of more than 500 feet.

Johnson, who escaped from a Florida chain gang, was brutally beaten by the police in an effort to make him admit the attack. At one time he was handcuffed to an overhead steam pipe for several hours.

Judge D'Andrea consistently refused to permit Nathan Copeland, Johnson's attorney, to question the girl.

Florida officials have not yet requested the return of Johnson. He is certain that death awaits him if he is returned to Florida after being accused of attacking a white girl.

James Johnson Trial Oct. 8

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

The trial of James Johnson, Negro fugitive from a Florida chain gang, was yesterday postponed in the Queens County Court until Oct. 8 after Mrs. Geraldine Driscoll, white woman lawyer, volunteered to speak in Johnson's behalf. Johnson is charged with robbery, grand larceny and attempted rape.

341 N.Y.

Mrs. Driscoll offered her services after it became known that Johnson's attorney, Nathan Copeland, could not appear in court.

Judge Thomas Downs would not hear Rev. Gentral Mack, president of the National Equal Rights League, who offered to represent Johnson. Wed. 10-2-46

Rev. Mack has asked all organizations interested in justice in the case to protest the high bail of $50,000, believed to be the largest sum ever set for such a charge in the county.

GIRL, BEATEN, ABLE TO TALK

The Times New York, N.Y.

Says She Lost Memory After Being Hit With Hatchet

Sat. 8-31-46

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Aug. 30—Able to face questioning for the first time since she was found beaten and unconscious a week ago in the American Red Cross rooms at the County Office Building here, Miss Frances O. Anastasio, 19-year-old stenographer for the Red Cross, told District Attorney George M. Fanelli this afternoon that she had been struck on the head by a hatchet without warning.

341

The wielder of the hatchet, she charged, was Percy Martin, 43, a porter for the Red Cross. She said that she could recall nothing that happened after the first blow, but that "I must have fought back." Martin died the next day of stab wounds. Miss Anastasio, still a patient in the White Plains Hospital, suffered a triple fracture of the skull.

Mr. Fanelli said that independent evidence proved that Martin had attempted to rape Miss Anastasio.

7369

Chatham Police Probe Girl's Story Of Slaying of Companion, Assault

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Thur. 8-8-46

Constitution State News Service

SAVANNAH, Aug. 7—Chatham County police late Wednesday announced they will "hold for questioning" the 17-year-old girl companion of Anthony Elixson, City Fireman and Navy veteran who was shot to death on a lonely road on the outskirts of Savannah early Wednesday morning.

341 Ga.

W. Lance Smith, Special Investigator in the office of the Solicitor General here, made the announcement and said medical examination revealed the girl who was with the 22-year-old fireman at the time of his death showed no signs of having been assaulted.

Previously she had told Chatham County police two Negroes had approached her and Elixson as they were parked beside a seldom-used road near here, shot the sailor to death and assaulted her.

Sol. Gen. Pro Tem. Andrew J. Ryan, Jr., immediately began a close questioning of the girl early Wednesday in an effort to obtain a clear picture of the slaying and to probe a portion of her story regarding the lapse of five hours between the time of the reported crime and her efforts to obtain help.

The victim of the alleged assault told Ryan she was unable to find her way to the main road in the dark.

Ryan said she would be examined to determine the extent of her injuries.

According to the story told the Solicitor General, she nad Elixson parked on a secluded road near here about 1 a. m. Wednesday after "riding around having some beer." She said the two Negroes suddenly appeared, dragged the fireman from the car, robbed him, carried him down the road to shoot him and then dragged the body back to the car.

Police found Elixson crumpled in the car, shot in the head and shoulder.

"I crawled back to the car after the two Negroes had assaulted me," the girl related, "and I sat there alone until 6 a. m. Then I reached into the back of the car over Anthony's body to get a pair of bathing trunks."

She put the trunks on before going for help. Her own clothes were found nearby in a wooded place.

Another person questioned Wednesday by Sol. Gen. Ryan was H. L. Lanigan, whose home and filling station are about a half mile from the scene of the crime.

Lanigan said the young woman came to his house about 6 a. m. and gave the first alarm. He stopped a passing motorist, who came to town and notified police.

Ryan, in reviewing the girl's story, said she had told him the Negroes had been armed with either a rifle or a shotgun. They approached and demanded the veteran's money, the girl reported.

Elixson, she said, got out of the car and gave one of the Negroes a dollar, saying that was all the money he had. The other Negro then got in the car and held her while Elixson, at gun point, was marched along the road in front of the car.

341

At that point, the girl told Ryan, she heard a shot. The Negro who had marched the youth away from the car then returned and both dragged her to the side of the road, where each assaulted her twice. Meanwhile, she stated, one of the Negroes returned to the car, and she heard another shot.

Ga.

The Solicitor General told of the body of the youthful fireman being found on the floor in the rear of the car, and he emphasized the fact there was no sign of its having been dragged there. Ryan said an investigation showed Elixson had been killed in the automobile, and he had found no evidence his body had been removed from the car. Both back doors of the car were shut.

The car was found about a mile off the paved Mills B. Lane highway near a spot where plans are being made for a Negro subdivision.

The Coroner's inquest, originally scheduled for Wednesday, has been postponed until Thursday.

James Johnson, Victim of a Frame-up

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

New York.

Editor, Daily Worker: Thur. 10-10-46

Last August I read in the Daily Worker of the case of James Johnson, the Negro who was accused of attempting to rape a white woman in Jamaica.

341 N.Y.

The Daily Worker is the one paper which gives such a case a break. I want to add my voice to those who believe that this is a cases for progressives to investigate and work on in order to prevent another tragic miscarriage of justice.

I was invited by a friend who has investigated the case from its inception to be one of a group who went to Jamaica to look at the place. He gave me a complete history of the case ard from what I saw, I am convinced that Johnson is the victim of a frame-up.

The fact that he is a fugitive from a chain gang makes him a natural for a frame-up.

He has already served nearly three years of a five year sentence for "selling ten cartons of cigarettes he did not steal" according to my informant. I hate to think what may happen to him if he is returned to Florida justice even if acquitted in Queens.

Couple charged with sodomy on girl, 15

The Tribune

Los Angeles, Calif.

NEW YORK—Judge Theodore A. Raderick, of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, last week signed a complaint against Thomas Simmelkjaer, 29, photographer, and Lilliam Mae Hammond, 33, charging them with forcing an unnamed 15-year-old girl to undergo a brutal 9-hour sex orgy while Simmelkjaer threatened to burn her with cigarettes. Sat. 8-31-46

341

The couple are being held on $5,000 bail on sodomy charges. Simmelkajaer is reported to have served an 11-month term for sodomy in Oneida, N. Y., in 1938. The victim was hospitalized six days, suffering from possible brain concussion and nervous shock.

15-year-old held for rape slaying

Tribune

Los Angeles, Calif. Sat. 10-5

NEW YORK—A 15-year-old boy, name withheld, is being held here for the rape and strangling of Janice Johnson, 4. The child's body was found stuffed in a coal bin. A clue to the young killer's identity was given by two cousins of Janice, Jacob and Esther Johnson, after police plied them with ice cream. The boy withstood a four-hour grilling before he confessed.

Girl Identifies Negro As Man Who Attacked Her, Killed Mother

The News
Birmingham, Ala.
Fri. 8-2-46

Murder Charge Placed In Vicious Slay-Ravish Case On Long Island

MINEOLA, N. Y., Aug. 2—(AP)—Capt. Stuyvesant Pinnell, chief of Nassau County detectives, said today Ward Beecher Caraway, 23-year-old Negro butler and chauffeur, had confessed to the slaying of socially prominent Mrs. Marjory Church Logan, 52, and raping and shooting her daughter, Marjory, 26, last July 24.

MINEOLA, N. Y., Aug. 2—(AP)—Capt. Stuyvesant Pinnell, chief of Nassau County detectives, said today a 23-year-old Negro butler and chauffeur had been arrested and charged with murder in the death July 24 of Mrs. Marjorie Church Logan and the rape and shooting of her 26-year-old daughter, Marjorie Jean.

342

Pinnell said Miss Logan had positively identified the Negro as the man who forced her to disrobe in a bedroom of her home, attacked her and then deliberately shot her in the face and neck.

Mrs. Logan was shot to death in the living room of her home a few minutes before the attack on the daughter.

* * *

THE MAN WAS IDENTIFIED by Pinnell as Ward Beecher Caraway, employed by Joseph M. Rose, whose home is near the Logan's in the Long Island community of Flower Hill.

Caraway first was under suspicion Wednesday night, Pinnell said, and was arrested last night by Detective Michael O'Brien. Today he was taken to Nassau County Hospital, where Miss Logan is a patient, and she identified him immediately, Pinnell added.

Police said Caraway was taken into custody at the Summer home of the Rose family at Southold in Suffolk County on the eastern end of Long Island.

He also was identified, police said, by Theodore Klick, a painter, who saw the man from his automobile as he rushed Miss Logan to a hospital.

John Logan, baking soda firm executive and husband of the slain woman, also viewed Caraway today, police added. The News

The Rose home in Flower Hill is about one and a half miles from the Logan residence in the fashionable North Shore section of Long Island. Birmingham, Ala.

The 52-year-old Mrs. Logan was shot to death by an intruder who apparently had demanded money. Miss Logan told police her mother had called to her to throw a $10 bill down a stairway to her so she might "pay a debt." Fri. 8-2-46

* * *

ALMOST IMMEDIATELY there was a gunshot and a Negro ran up the steps to confront the girl, who was on the second floor of her home. The man took from her a roll of bills which she had in her hand, Miss Logan said, and the attack followed.

The young woman ran screaming from the house in her underclothes after the attack. Klick, working on a nearby home, rushed her to the hospital.

En route they passed her attacker, who was walking along the roadside, but they did not stop. An intensive police search followed.

QUEENS GIRL RAPED; SUSPECT IS SEIZED

New York [illegible]
New York

An 18-year-old student was seized from behind, choked, dragged into a driveway, raped and robbed at 2:30 A. M. yesterday not far from her home in Jamaica, Queens. A few minutes later detectives in a cruising radio car picked up a suspect running from the vicinity, who was identified by the girl as her assailant.

Mon 8-26-46

342

The girl got off a Queens-Nassau bus at 164th Street and 82d Road, Jamaica, and had walked about a block and a half toward her home when the man grabbed her, pulled her into a driveway at the rear of 82-67 164th Place, raped her and ran off with her pocketbook.

N.Y.

The girl's screams had been heard, meanwhile, by Patrolman Adam Bestafka in his home at 82-47 164th Place. He ran to the scene in time to see the fleeing man, and gave chase but lost his quary in the darkness.

However, he telephoned to police headquarters in Jamaica, where an alarm was broadcast describing the assailant as a Negro. A few minutes later two detectives in a patrol car saw a man running along Hillside Avenue, about eight blocks from the scene of the crime. They questioned him and took him to the scene of the crime, where, they said, the girl positively identified him.

Mon 8-26-46

The prisoner said he was James Johnson, a laborer, 25 years old, of 162-28 Brinkerhoff Avenue, Jamaica. He denied the attack but admitted, according to the police, that he escaped in 1943 from a Florida road gang. He was booked on charges of assault, robbery and rape.

The girl was taken to the Queens General Hospital.

Parolee Raped Sleeping Wife; Revisits Her

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.
Sat. 8-31-46

It will be sometime before Henry Wyers, 28, 232 Bristol St., Brooklyn, will have opportunity to call a woman up and make a date. Particularly a criminally-attacked victim of his.

342

Wyers was arraigned in Brooklyn Felony Court Wednesday and held without bail by Magistrate Cullen for the Grand Jury. He is alleged to have entered the bedroom of Mrs. Margie Cohen, 25, 207 Amboy St., not far from the address of the defendant, and assaulted her while her 3½-year-old son slept beside her. The woman's husband is a soldier now serving in the Philippines.

N.Y.

It seems that on Tuesday night Henry climbed into the bedroom of the Cohen home through a window with intentions of burglarizing the apartment and found the housewife and her infant in bed asleep.

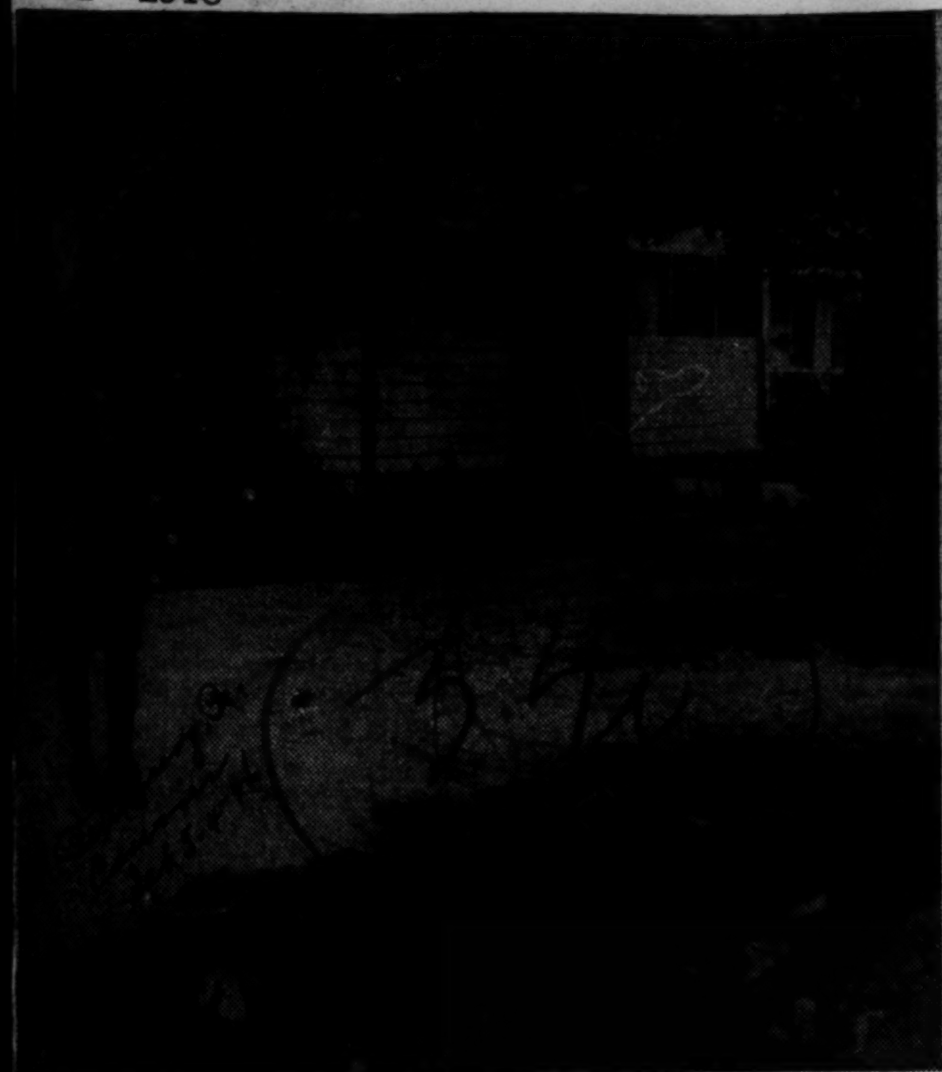
Reportedly, she awoke to find Wyer's hands on her throat. Threatening to kill both she and her young one if she shouted out, Wyer, a parolee on a burglary conviction, assaulted her. Before he left the intruder wrote down her telephone number.

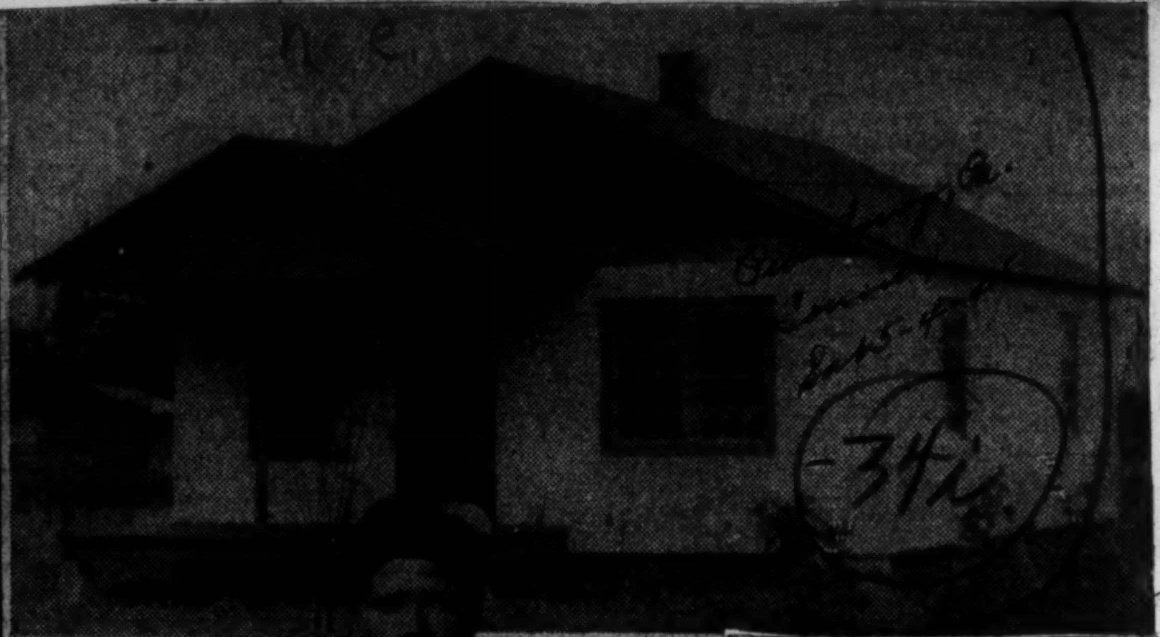
Mrs. Cohen notified Detectives Albert Beron and Abraham Marker, of the Liberty Ave. precinct, after her attacker called back and inquired as to her health and for permission to return—which she granted. The officers were in the apartment when Wyers arrived the second time.

N.C.

7370

-34i-





ANOTHER SCOTTSBORO CASE!...IN NORTH CAROLINA—A new Scottsboro case has passed through a Dixie courtroom, and four colored men have been sentenced to die. Scene of the case is Lumberton, N. C., where a white woman accused the four men of raping her in the Negro residential section. Scene at left shows Mrs. Maude Smith, sister of one of the convicted men. She points to a ditch where the white woman's car stalled prior to the alleged rape. Top photo at right shows house where rape is alleged to have taken place. Mrs. Meggie Emma Inman, wife of one of the accused men, is in bottom photo at right. She produced bloody clothes of her husband, result of a beating at the hands of police, she told The Courier.

Night of Terror Described

FEAR GRIPS "SCOTTSBOROTOWN"

4 Men Face Gas Death In Carolina Rape Case

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa
Sat 5-4-46

By A. M. RIVERA Jr.
(Courier Correspondent)

LUMBERTON, N. C. — It was a box car in Scottsboro, Ala., and now, it's Lovett Road in Lumberton, N. C.

Last March 17, a white woman, Mrs. Dorothy Louise Frye, 29, said she was raped by four colored men in an unfinished house on Lovett Road. She listed her attackers as Granger Thompson, 21; Stacy Powell, 23; Calvin Covington, 18, and Cliff Inman, 36.

34i

During a six-day trial, which ended April 29, Thompson referred to the "victim" as "Miss Dorothy" and declared she agreed to go to the house with him for $2.50. He admitted that he, Powell and Covington had illicit relations with the woman, and quoted her as saying "I'll get you" after Covington left without paying the woman and Powell paid $2 less than he had agreed to pay.

NIGHT OF TERROR

Negro residents of Lovett Road said a "night of terror" existed in the colored section the night of March 17 when police officers came to arrest the four men. The suspects were cursed, beaten and kicked, neighbors said, and Thompson was carried to the unfinished house and beaten so severely that blood stains were found on the walls and floor.

Colored residents said arresting officers begged the four men to run that they might have an excuse to shoot and kill them.

All of the suspects were reported wearing bloody clothes when police took them from the scene. Despite this, R. A. Bridges, State prison official, testified that the prisoners showed no signs of having been beaten upon their arrival at the State Penitentiary in Raleigh.

DEATH BY GAS

The four men are scheduled to die in the State gas chamber July 26. Presiding Judge Clawson L. Williams of Sanford, N. S., pronounced the sentence, "Death by asphyxiation," shortly after the all-white jury returned the verdict.

J. S. Bowman and L. P. Harris of Charlotte, defense attorneys, waived by default the systematic exclusion of Negroes from the jury and did not call to the stand Dr. E. L. Bowman and Dr. S. M. Wrenn who examined Mrs. Frye after the alleged crime and declared that her body showed no signs of lacerations, bruises or nervousness.

Sat 5-4-46

GENERAL FEAR EXISTS

The prisoners, handcuffed in pairs, were carried by Sheriff Clyde Wade to Central Prison where they had been lodged "for safe keeping" for more than two weeks following their arrest.

An NAACP mass meeting was held here by the local chapter as a means of aiding the prisoners, but because of fear of repercussions, only twenty-three persons attended. Local groups are contributing secretly, however, to the defense of the convicted men and the national office of the NAACP has been contacted.

STRAUGHN'S STORY

Testimony offered at the trial was contradictory. Frank Straughn, white, described as a married man whose automobile license had been revoked for drunken driving, testified that he had helped drink a pint of whiskey on March 17, and that Mrs. Frye later drove him to Lovett Road to get another drink. He said the car was stopped between two houses, one of them occupied by Thompson. He insisted that Mrs. Frye did not want a drink, but that he got one next door after Thompson was unable to serve him.

When Mrs. Frye could not start her car, Straughn, a mechanic by trade, said he discovered a shortage, and then offered to buy Thompson and some other men a drink if they helped him push the machine. Unable to start it, the car was left resting in a small ditch.

He said Inman, who owned a car, drove him to town to get a chain. They were back in five minutes, the white man said. When he did not see Mrs. Frye in her car, Straughn said he thought the woman "had gotten tired of waiting and gone home." He said he then left.

MRS. FRYE'S STORY

Mrs. Frye's testimony goes this way: While looking for her missing purse, Thompson came from behind her, grabbed her in his arms, put a hand over her mouth and carried her bodily to the unfinished house one block away. Powell and another Negro were walking with him she declared.

When she was released, she said she took off her high heel shoes and walked down the road and was picked up by white people who charged her $1 to carry her to

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North Carolinan Held for rape of white woman, 59

RALEIGH, N.C.—Woodrow Brown, of Panther Branch, N.C., has confessed assaulting Miss Stella Edwards, white, 59, of Leesville, and is being held in an undisclosed jail on rape charges, the sheriff's office reported here last week.

34i

Negro Trusty Admits Assaulting Woman

The News
Birmingham Ala.
Tues. 11-26-46

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 26—(AP)—Willie Little, 39-year-old Negro prison trusty, was held today on a charge of criminal assault following his capture after a bloodhound chase.

34i

Mrs. Fletcher Rook, 53-year-old white woman, told Deputy Sheriff R. L. Atkins that Little broke into her home Monday afternoon while she and her 5-year-old granddaughter were sleeping in adjoining rooms, and assaulted her.

Atkins said Little made a statement admitting the assault.

The Negro trusty, who was serving a 15-year sentence for second degree murder, was arrested less than 45 minutes after bloodhounds were placed on a trail leading from the Rook home.

N.C. MAN DOOMED ON "OLD WHITE WOMAN ATTACK" GAG

RALEIGH, N.C. — After a 15-minute jury deliberation, Woodrow Brown, 25, was sentenced to die for allegedly criminally attacking a 59-year-old white woman town. She said she told them she had come to Lovett Road with friends and had been separated.

Straughan reached her home later she said, and both of them went to the sheriff's office to report the "rape." After the arrests she identified Powell and Thompson but asked not to be pressed for answers at that time.

THOMPSON'S STORY

In his own defense, Thompson said Mrs. Frye had visited his house on an average of two or three times a week during a period of one year. He said she called him "Fats" and he knew her well enough to call her "Dorothy."

He quoted Mrs. Frye as saying: "Fats, I want a drink of whiskey. Franks' (Straughan) gone and didn't leave me any money." He told her he didn't have any whiskey. The woman then asked him to loan her some money, Thompson told the court.

"If you'll give me a date, I'll give you some money," Thompson replied.

Afr 5-4-46

He said he suggested the unfinished house when the woman asked where they would go.

Thompson said Mrs. Frye got out of the car, put her arms around him, and walked to the house, followed by Powell. They sat on the porch and the woman asked if the others had any money, Thompson declared.

Thompson said the three of them went into the house with the woman. She became angry, he said, when Covington slipped out without paying and Powell paid $2 less than he had bargained.

Claims White Soldier Was Stabbed In Attempting Attack On Women

Journal + Guide

Journal + Guide

By F. L. BURNS

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C. — Pfc. Avils S. Reuben, a white soldier attached to the 326th Glider Infantry, Fort Bragg, N. C., suffered knife wounds in the arms and back reportedly inflicted by Joseph Montgomery, colored, who foiled his alleged attempted attack on Mrs Rowena Brewington, colored, recently.

5-25-46

Mrs. Brewington's frantic screams for help are said to have brought Montgomery, her next door neighbor to her aid. There, he grappled with Reuben, and inflicted the wounds with a knife before subduing him, reports of the affair state.

Norfolk

Mrs. Brewington is quoted as having said that Reuben wrenched open the door of an out of doors privy, seized her by the arm so violently that her watch band broke, and commanded her to make no outcry.

Va.

Reuben was rushed by ambulance to Fort Bragg. Mrs. Brewington and Montgomery were carried to police headquarters, and later released. However, on the following morning, Montgomery was arrested at his home, and is now free under a $250 bond pending the recovery of Pfc. Reuben.

Further substantiation of Mrs. Brewington's claim was given by Jim McLean, a night watchman in the vicinity, who identified Reuben as the man that he and another night watchman had chased from 215 Worth street after he had attempted to attack another Negro woman there. This attempted attack the watchman said took place about two blocks south of the Fort Bragg Bus Station on Worth street.

6-1-46

Montgomery's hearing has been docketed for June 11.

Girl, 12, Is Assaulted

Four Negroes Held In Greensboro Jail

Charlotte, N. C., Observer
Aug. 10, 1940

34 N.C.

GREENSBORO, Aug. 9.—(AP)—Four Negroes were being held in city jail tonight for investigation into the rape of a 12-year-old white girl Thursday at 3 p. m. near Woman's college lake, while police tonight were continuing their work in the case which saw the arrest of six Negroes, workers at Woman's college, at noon today.

Two of the six were released tonight following questioning, police said. The men were arrested in action directed personally by Chief L. L. Jarvis. About noon, five police cars went to the college and while several officers guarded exits, others went into the buildings where the men were working and handcuffed them.

The six were brought to detective headquarters for possible identification by the girl early this afternoon. The girl saw the group but police tonight were withholding comment on whether she had been able to identify the two Negroes who assaulted her.

The young girl had told police she had gone to the college lake with a group of other children Thursday. She stated that she and another girl wandered off from the group, that when they encountered two Negro men, the other girl fled while she was grabbed by the men, thrown to the ground and assaulted.

She described the Negroes as between 17 and 20 years of age and of medium dark complexion.

Today's arrests followed police use of bloodhounds in the case, it was stated. Several of the Negroes taken at the college building were laughing and talking as they were brought into police headquarters while the others were quiet and apparently unconcerned. The two men released were questioned but were cleared of any connection with the case, officers stated.

34i 1946 Ohio

7371

Negro rape scares continue to inflame racial situation

The Tribune Los Angeles, Calif.

Sat. 9-21-46

CINCINNATI—Negro rape scares, one of which resulted recently in near race riot in this city, continued to crop up about the country this week as one county grand jury ordered a $27,000 bond for a disabled Negro war veteran suspected of attacking three women; and as the NAACP of a southern city offered a reward for the allegedly Negro attacker of a white girl, obviously to forestall antagonism against the Negro masses because of the attack.

Ohio

The disabled veteran of World War II, who is being held on charges of raping two women and on suspicion of assaulting a third, all white, is John Rollins Colley, 24.

Colley, who has been tried before what is called "the bar of public opinion" by the local white dailies for every rape occurring here in the past two months declares, "I do not know why I was arrested." The papers recently began "playing down" the attack stories, however, since a white youth, who was identified by a white woman and a 14-year-old white girl as their attackers, was taken into custody.

Acting on the probability that Colley is not guilty and that Negroes are being unjustly suspected of the various attacks, the Cincinnati NAACP has set up a $500 reward for information leading to the arrest, conviction and final sentence of assailants in the various unsolved criminal attack cases reported between June 1 and Aug. 23. Sat.

A $100-supplement to state, city and private rewards totaling $5,000 for information leading to the arrest of the alleged Negro attacker of a 20-year-old Richmond white girl, who was stabbed, beaten with a brick and left for dead on a vacant lot after alleged attempted ar[illegible], has been offered in the Virginia city by J. S. Tinsley, president of the NAACP Richmond.

Rape of a different complexion is reported in Raleigh, N. C., where W. H. Nichols, white taxi driver, is charged with attempted rape of a 15-year-old Negro girl, Sara Alice Jones, who works as a maid. The Jones girl said Nichols tried to assault her after asking her age and then telling her she was "old enough to take it." The Tribune Los Angeles Calif.

Sat. 9-21-46

In Chicago, the NAACP there is pushing charges of rape against a white newsman, Edward Boul, reporter for the Hearst Herald American. Boul assertedly raped Mrs. Lucille Allen (Negro) Aug. 23, after forcing his way into her apartment, flashing a gold badge, and claiming to be a G-man looking for the killer of a white man.

Tulsa Man Held For Rape Attempt

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.
7-?-46

TULSA — William Turner is being held for attempted rape of a -year-old child on July 11th, when she was picked up on a corner waiting for the city bus with brothers and other children.

34i Okla.

Police evidence disclosed that the child was standing on the bus corner at Greenwood and Marshall streets when Turner, riding by in his car, was hailed by her and asked to ride to 4th and Cincinnati to pay her mother's water bill, knowing Turner and belonging to the same church as he did she had confidence in his integrity. Turner turned the car east and drove to North Peoria avenue, explaining to his intended victim that he was going to 3rd street and Peoria to obtain some kind of box; that leaving there the said defendant drove north of Peoria to the northern boundaries of the city, and then drove in a northwesternly direction to the Crimes and Blisby oil lease property in Osage county; that upon nearing said Osage and Blisby lease he turned the car west and drove over a winding road up hill to the residence buildings located thereon and then turned the car shortly around upon seeing a baby and several small children about the yard. He then drove back toward the highway to a small tin shed situated upon the oil lease property where he turned the car north over a dim trail and into a wooded section where he parked, and began trying to kiss the girl. The girl resisted every advance of Turner but he got out of the car and by force pulled her out, and threw her on the ground tearing her wearing apparel and tried to seduce her. The child resisted Turner by scratching and biting him on the arm, cheek, and back. After a struggle he allowed her to get back into the car and started to the city.

34i

Enroute he asked her if she intended to tell anybody about it and she told him she was going to tell her mother. He offered her money and some clothing and promised to give her anything she requested. The Black Dispatch - Okla.

Turner told the girl that if she insisted upon telling her mother he would take her to another country. At that point the child jumped from the automobile while it was in motion and ran south on Sidedrive to an apartment where her mother was employed.

The mother immediately reported the matter to the police.

341 1946 Pennsylvania

7373

Boy, 14, Admits Attacking, Slaying Bucks Co. Woman

P.M. -

By Uni

LANGHORNE, Pa., June 17.—Fourteen-year-old, 5-foot 10-inch, Aaron Shelton, Jr., of Philadelphia, has confessed that he bludgeoned, attacked and then strangled Mrs. Peggy Shetland, 48, wife of a Trenton, N. J., rubber company executive, police announced.

[illegible] 6-17-46

Bucks County District Attorney Edward G. Biester said Shelton set fire to the house occupied by Mrs. Shetland and her husband, Walter.

The battered and bloody body of the slightly-built housewife was found in the coal bin of her home yesterday by Shelton's father. Also employed by the Shetlands, he was plowing a nearby field. He ran to the burning home and carried the body out.

New York.

Chief County Detective Anthony Russo said the boy admitted the slaying in the presence of his father and then re-enacted the crime.

Russo said Shelton told him he was mowing the lawn and entered the Shetland home where Mrs. Shetland, who was alone, discovered him hiding behind a door.

Russo quoted Shelton as saying he told her he was looking for a can of oil, He was ordered out of the house, but went to the cellar, got some twine and returned upstairs where he struck Mrs. Shetland on the head with a poker, tied her with the twine and attacked her.

Monday. 6-17-46

Police said the boy strangled Mrs. Shetland, carried her body to the cellar, where he threw it into the coal bin. They said he poured kerosene over the coal and set fire to it. The flames apparently died when he slammed the door shut.

34i 1946 South Carolina 7374

Darlington Man Held on Rape, Robbery Charges

The News and Courier
Charleston, S.C.
Fri. 7-12-46

Darlington, July 11 — Special: Elijah Robinson, 30, negro trusty on the Darlington county gang, was arrested Thursday and charged with robbing and raping a 60-year-old negro woman in her home in a Darlington suburb, Wednesday night.

34i S.C.

State Constable Roy Williams said he, Sheriff Wiley Grantham and Sergeant Berry Tarte, of the Darlington police department, made the arrest.

Constable Williams said the woman, in the house with several grandchildren, the oldest six years old, was robbed of $14 and then criminally assaulted.

Robinson will be tried at the fall term of court.

Interfering with Girl, Man Held by Magistrate

News & Courier
Charleston, S.C.

Frank Swinston, 17-year-old negro, of 13 Clifford alley, accused of molesting a teen age white girl, was committed to the county jail yesterday to await a preliminary hearing later before Magistrate Thomas A. Matthews. His bond was set at $5,000. Thur. 7-[illegible]-46

Detective Louis Brown arrested Swinston Monday after the young girl identified him. She told detectives that on Friday, as she was walking in King street, the negro put his hands on her. The following day he made a lewd proposition to her, it was disclosed at the hearing before the Magistrate yesterday before Swinston was lodged in jail.

S.C.

Florence Man Held In Connection With Assault

The News and Courier
Charleston, S.C.
Fri. 8-23-46

Florence, Aug. 22. — Special: Coker Taylor, 29-year-old Florence negro, was arrested Thursday in connection with the rape of a young white married woman on the outskirts of the city Wednesday night.

A taxi driver provided information that led Sheriff Dan Clarke to Taylor, who has been identified by the victim as the attacker.

34i

In response to a published request by Sheriff Clarke for information concerning an automobile seen to have deposited a passenger near the scene a few minutes before the attack occurred a Florence taxi driver, unidentified by the sheriff, informed the sheriff at 5:45 a. m. today that he had carried Taylor to a point within a few hundred yards of the scene of the attack.

S.C.

The taxi driver further told Sheriff Clarke he had seen the victim of the attack, the mother of three small children, riding a bicycle on the road both before and after he discharged the negro.

The woman named Taylor from a group of four negroes, identifying him, she told the sheriff, by his voice and physical stature. All the negroes in the lineup had their backs to officers and the woman when she identified him.

Riding a bicycle to her home in an outlying section southeast of Florence after seeing a motion picture, the woman said the negro accosted her and followed her to a wooded section where he grabbed and attacked her.

Seh told Sheriff Clarke the negro threatened to kill her if she "told on" him and that, fearing for her life, she told him she would not tell if he wouldn't. She then rode quickly to her home and told her husband of the assault. He went to the residence of a city policeman, who called Sheriff Clarke.

Time of the attack was set at about 11 p. m.

Investigation of the area revealed a stalled automobile occupied by a negro family in the vicinity of the place at which the assault occurred. The driver of the car told the sheriff he had seen a new car come to a point at which a lane leaves the Claussen road and had seen a man get out, after which the car headed back toward Florence.

Man Held for Assault On 7-Year-Old Girl

The News and Courier
Charleston, South Carolina

Charged with raping a seven-year-old negro girl, Frank Brown, 23-year-old negro, of 12 Norman street, was lodged at the county jail yesterday to await a preliminary hearing before Magistrate Thomas A. Matthews. Thurs. 6-27-46

34i

The charges were brought by the child's mother, a resident of the northwestern section of the city, who alleged that Brown ravished the child Monday morning at his residence. Detectives James B. Atteberry and D. C. Pitts investigated.

Protests S. C. Rape Attempt

The Courier Pittsburgh, Pa
Sat. 8-10-46

COLUMBIA, ~~S. C.~~ (ANP)—The State NAACP conference, James M. Hinton president, said, has filed a protest with the city bus division of the S. C. Electric and Gas Company here over the unsuccessful attempt of a driver on the Devine Street run to criminally assault a young married woman Tuesday night.

34i

The driver is alleged to have made the attempt as he waited out a fifteen-minute rest in the early evening when the woman was the lone passenger.

The NAACP asked for dismissal of the driver.

lice Launch Intensive Se
r Suspect in Attack Ca

ines-Dispatch Richmond Va

1-30-46

341

West Eend Negro who swered generally" the description of the attacker of a 24-year- Richmond socialite Tuesday the object of a city-wide search last night, as offi- disclosed they "are thinking of recalling some of the city's wartime auxiliary police to in the investigation of the attack."

"rogue's gallery" picture of Negro was shown yesterday rnoon to the attack victim, Detective-Captain O. D. Garton said subsequent questioning of young woman made him "want talk" to the man.

Meanwhile, these other developments marked city detectives' intensive search for the assailant:

(1) Captain Garton disclosed that the victim, in an afternoon conference with investigators, said she was stabbed by a small, rusty, paring knife.

(2) Governor Tuck authorized Attorney-General Staples to announce the State is matching the city's offer of $1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the assailant.

(3) Lieutenant E. A. Kelley, homicide expert, was assigned as officer-in-charge of the investigation.

(4) One suspect, arrested Wednesday night on "another charge" was released yesterday after several hours' questioning convinced police he was innocent of committing the attack.

Victim Gives Description

Captain Garton, who talked with the attack victim for more than an hour, said the young woman, whom he called "remarkable," reconstructed "the entire crime from beginning to end," and supplemented police officers' earlier knowledge of circumstances surrounding the assault.

The assailant, he quoted the young woman as saying, was small—not much larger than I—and not so very strong, although he was stronger than I. She declared the Negro did not "talk like an ignorant" man.

The attacker was described as being about five feet, four or five inches tall, and of a "dark chocolate" complexion. He told her, the victim said, that "I don't want to have to hurt you" but that he was "going to have to kill you" to get away with his crime.

The young woman declared that she saw clearly the knife used in the attack, at one time knocking it from the attacker's grasp and, ain, catching the blade of it in hand. It was, she said, a small paring knife with a blade not more than five inches long. The end of the blade was angular, and the metal was rusted.

Captain Garton said he was "acting on other information" which the victim gave him.

A short time earlier, Chief Organ said that "a large number" of auxiliary police had called in to volunteer their services in the search for the assailant. A conference with leaders of that wartime group will be held at 8 P. M. today at police headquarters.

Chief Organ said that "the more men we have, the more chance we have of getting information. One of these auxiliaries may pick up something that will lead us to the man. Then, too, [redacted] on duty in that se[redacted]ay the fear of the people out there." Some residents of the area, he said, are "living behind barred windows and doors, and won't answer the door for anybody."

Reward Increased

The announcement from Governor Tuck that the State is matching the city's $1,000 reward for the attacker, raised the total reward now offered to $2,600. Mayor Herbert offered a personal reward of $500, and City Sergeant W. B. (Dooley) Gentry, made a similar offer of $100.

Captain Garton declared that any information received by his bureau will be treated "with the utmost confidence" and that persons with any knowledge of the crime should have "no fear" in disclosing it to police.

The detective chief visited the victim's hospital room only a short time after he had completed the grilling of a man known to have been in the general area Tuesday night.

The man, however, convinced the official that he had left the streetcar and gone directly to his home. His statement was backed by that of his wife, who also was questioned by officers.

The assault occurred shortly before 8 P. M. Tuesday and the young woman lay in the lot near the intersection of Grove Avenue and Greenway Lane more than two hours before she was able to summon aid.

The victim's condition was reported as "improved" last night.

The 24-year-old socialite, Anne M. Fowlkes, a Vassar graduate and registrar of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts here, said she was attacked shortly after she left a street car to visit a friend.

Miss Fowlkes said her attacker fled, thinking she was dead. She said she was attacked, beaten and cut about the throat and abdomen.

The attack was reported to have occurred in the fashionable Hampton Gardens district.

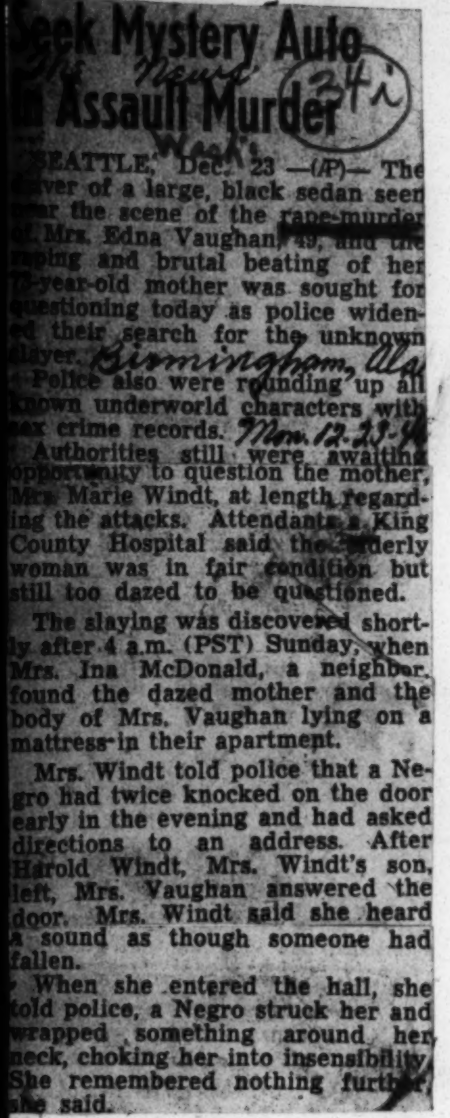
Socialite Beaten

Offer Reward In Va. Attack

34i

RICHMOND, Va.—Rewards totaling $5,000 have been offered for capture of a man described as a [illegible]-year-old Negro who is wanted for slashing and criminally attacking a prominent young white woman.

7376



Seek Mystery Auto In Assault Murder

The News

34i

Wash.

SEATTLE, Dec. 23 —(AP)— The driver of a large, black sedan seen near the scene of the rape-murder of Mrs. Edna Vaughan, ~~49, and the~~ raping and brutal beating of her 73-year-old mother was sought for questioning today as police widened their search for the unknown slayer.

Birmingham, Ala.

Police also were rounding up all known underworld characters with sex crime records.

Mon. 12-23-46

Authorities still were awaiting opportunity to question the mother, Mrs. Marie Windt, at length regarding the attacks. Attendants a King County Hospital said the elderly woman was in fair condition but still too dazed to be questioned.

The slaying was discovered shortly after 4 a.m. (PST) Sunday, when Mrs. Ina McDonald, a neighbor, found the dazed mother and the body of Mrs. Vaughan lying on a mattress in their apartment.

Mrs. Windt told police that a Negro had twice knocked on the door early in the evening and had asked directions to an address. After Harold Windt, Mrs. Windt's son, left, Mrs. Vaughan answered the door. Mrs. Windt said she heard a sound as though someone had fallen.

When she entered the hall, she told police, a Negro struck her and wrapped something around her neck, choking her into insensibility. She remembered nothing further, she said.

Four City Youths Held In Criminal Attacks

B'ham News

34j

Three Woodlawn High School football players—one of them the team captain—and another Woodlawn youth were being held in the Jefferson County Jail without bond on charges of rape on a warrant signed by City Detective E. B. Lewis after two young Birmingham women reported they were taken out on the Gadsden Highway Friday night and criminally assaulted.

Ala

The warrants were issued yesterday in Judge G. C. Boner's court with two warrants being sworn out against each of three of the boys and one warrant against the fourth.

Sun 6-23-46

The youths were listed at the County Jail as William T. Davidson, 18, of 5133 Seventh Avenue, South, two warrants; Eugene McQueen, 18, the team captain, of 1515 South 55th Street, one warrant; Robert Nunn, 17, of 6804 Second Avenue, South, two warrants, and William N. Fullington, 18, who gave his address as Municipal Airport, two warrants. The first three named are Woodlawn High Shool students.

City police said the women reported they were picked up about 9:30 p.m. Friday on 20th Street, between Third and Fourth Avenues, North. They said the youths offered to take them to a downtown cafe, but drove out on the highway instead.

B'ham Ala.

The women told police they were later put out of the car on 80th Street and First Avenue, North. An arrest order was broadcast and the four boys were taken into custody by detectives yesterday morning after the victims gave police the license number of the car which led the to identification of one of the boys. 6-23-46 Sun

A physician reported both women, one unmarried and one a divorcee, showed evidence of having been ravished.

Youths Held In Assault Case Are Denied Bail

Birmingham News

Birmingham Ala.

Three of four Woodlawn youths seeking freedom on bond for the alleged ravishing of two Birmingham women on the night of June 21 were denied bail yesterday and remanded to the County Jail to await trial by Judge Robert J. Wheeler. Thur. 7-25-46

34j

The three youths have been held in the County Jail since their arrest on the morning of June 22 and through attorneys had sought bond through a habeas corpus writ before Judge Wheeler.

Ala.

The defendants, all 18 years old, are William T. Fullington, William Davidson and Eugene McQueen. A fourth defendant in the same case, Robert Nunn, is represented by other counsel and did not attend the hearing yesterday and is still confined to jail.

Defense Attys. Roderick Beddow, Jake Taylor and Howard Perdue put only one of the defendants, Fullington, on the stand yesterday and by mutual consent of counsel the written transcript of the testimony of the two women and City Physician E. C. Ray taken at a preliminary hearing was taken under study by the court in lieu of the three prosecution witnesses' taking the stand.

The women told police that they were picked up on a downtown street and carried to a secluded spot off the Gadsden Highway and criminally assaulted.

Indictments against the youths were returned by the Summer Grand Jury earlier this month, with three of the youths facing two charges of rape and the fourth, Eugene McQueen, facing one charge.

The two women, one a divorcee, were employed at the time of the alleged attack at a West End drug store, and had met in town to have dinner and see a show and after meeting the boys on a downtown street had entered a car accompanied by three of the defendants. The fourth defendant was picked up later in Woodlawn, testimony showed yesterday. Thur. 7.25.46

The state is being represented in the case by State's Atty. E. C. (Bud) Watson and Cecil Deason.

Three Men Are Jailed On Assault Charges; City Is Hit By Violence

News

Birmingham, Ala.

Tarrant City Woman Attacked; Family Fuss Ends In Shooting Fray

Mon. 9-23-46

Three white men were lodged in City Jail today on rape charges after a Tarrant City matron told police the three criminally attacked her Saturday night on a lonely road near Municipal Airport.

Ala

34j

The three men were identified as F. B. Kyzer, 1416 Lloyd George Drive, Tarrant City; B. L. Bouch and T. R. Pocus, both of Route 9, Birmingham.

The woman was examined at Hillman Hospital by city physicians, who confirmed the assault had taken place.

Investigating the case are Officers Harold Cain and W. H. White, who reported the woman was picked up near a Tarrant City grocery by the three men, who were in a truck.

The attack case climaxed a week-end of violence which saw Alfred L. Schweinbraten, 38, 903 28th Street, Southwest, admitted to Jefferson Hospital Saturday night after suffering a gunshot wound of the chest after an argument at the home of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Helen Kuehl, 38, 901 28th Street, Southwest.

Detectives C. L. Pierce and Charles Stevens said Schweinbraten had gone to Mrs. Kuehl's home to see his wife. Mrs. Kuehl was arrested on charges of assault with intent to murder.

Condition of Schweinbraten was reported as "serious" at the Jefferson today.

Accused Man Finds Troubles Doubled By Courtroom Visit

The News

Birmingham, Ala.

Wed. 10-23-46

Carl B. Haynes, 28, 5100 50th Street, went into Circuit Judge Lewis Bailes' courtroom yesterday afternoon to be tried on one charge and found himself leaving facing another accusation.

34j

Haynes was to have been tried on a charge of criminal attack of a young Birmingham matron in a Southside rooming house May 31. This case was continued, but while the defendant was in the courtroom, he was observed by a man who identified him as one of two persons who had robbed him here last Spring.

Ala

The man, W. W. Hancock, was at the courthouse to testify against Arlene Gilland, 24, of Lewisburg, who the state charged was also involved in the robbery last Spring. She pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment.

Assistant Circuit Solicitor Mortimer Jordan said a case was being made out charging Haynes with robbery.

Two Nabbed In Fairfield For Kidnaping, Assault

The News

Birmingham, Ala.

Two 22-year-old youths were held in County Jail at Bessemer today, charged with raping a 14-year-old girl.

34j Ala Wed.

They were identified by R. B. Ragsdale, investigator for the county solicitor's office, as Howard French and Clyde Nichols.

Ragsdale quoted the girl as saying the men forced her into a truck on Gary Avenue in Fairfield, and that each raped her after driving to a point beyond Dolomite. 9-11-46

The youths are held under warrants charging kidnaping and rape. They were arrested at their homes yesterday by Fairfield officers.

Waitress Assaulted On Springville Road By White Man, Negro

Birmingham, Ala.

The News

Hysteric Woman Tells of Attacks; She Struc Driver in Face and Fle

Birmingham, Ala.

A white matron, who told police she was a waitress at the Municipal Airport resturant, appeared at police headquarters e early this morning weeping and exhausted, and informed officers she had been criminall assaulted by an unidentified white and Negro last night.

34j

Ala

Police said the wom woman, who went almost hysterically, said she had accepted a lift from the white man driving the auto "to town" when she got off from work last night. Tues 11-9-47

After entering the a auto, officers said th the woman told them she noticed the Negro seated on the rear seat.

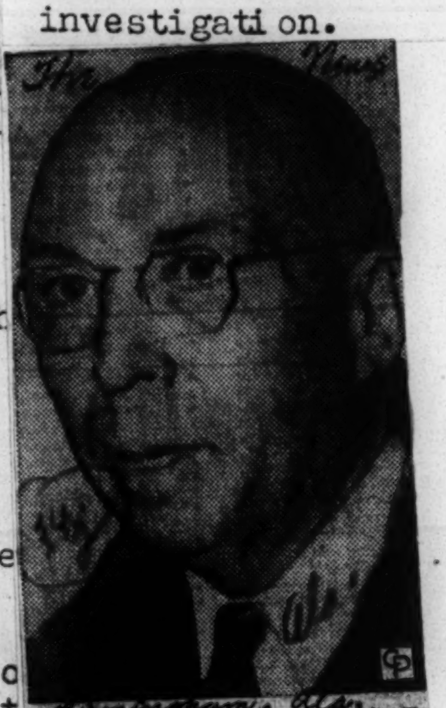
Instead of driving h her toward town, the woman told the police the driver headed in the direction of Springville and about seven miles out on the Springville Highway she was pulled on the rear seat by the Negro and criminally assaulted she said. Later, s she said, the white man also assaulted her.

The woman, officers s said, told them she picked up a bottle of cleaning fluid she was taking home and struck the white man in the face with it as she jumped from the auto and fled.

She said she alternately walked and ran down the highway several miles before s she was picked up by a truck driver who brought her to East Lake where she rode a streetcar to town.

The woman, police sai told them her husband was living with his relatives near Shannon and that she was living in Norwood with her 4-year old son. Tues 11-9-47

Police said the high way patrol would be asked to assist in the investigation.



The News

Birmingham, Ala.

ASSAULT CHARGED—Mark E. Holt, 61, Chicago school principal, is out of jail on $2,500 bond after being arrested on three charges of rape brought by the grandmother and guardian of an 8-year-old girl and the parents of two girls, 8 and 14. 12-25-46

34j 1946 Alabama

7378

Girl, 17, Charges Uncle With Criminal Attack

The News

34j

Roy Isbell, 35, operator of a sawmill at Vandiver, Ala., in Shelby County, was being held without bond in Jefferson County Jail today, charged with criminally attacking his 17-year-old niece, who lives in Birmingham, Tuesday afternoon.

Isbell was arrested by Leeds police, who also took into custody Eunice Holmes, 33, of Leeds, after Isbell had sworn out a warrant charging her with taking $1,100 from him. The woman was being held under $5,000 bond, on a grand larceny charge Birmingham, Ala.

Isbell told Leeds police that he came to Birmingham Tuesday to borrow $1,100 to buy a tract of timberland. After stopping by the home of his niece, he told officers, he went on to Leeds, where he met Eunice Holmes in a cafe. Thurs.

[illegible]

The 17-year-old niece charges Isbell came to her home while she was alone, threatened her with a knife and criminally attacked her.

34j 1946

Austria

7379

TWO GIRLS KIDNAPPED, ONE SLAIN IN VIENNA

Fri. 11-8-46

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

34j

Austria

VIENNA, Nov. 7—The kidnapping of two young Viennese girls in broad daylight last Sunday by four men in Russian uniform and the subsequent murder of one and rape and wounding of the other have raised public opinion here to a high pitch of fear and resentment.

What is more notable about the affair than its atrocity is the fact that no one who saw the kidnapping dared to interfere, that the Austrian police still dare not investigate the circumstances of the crime and that the surviving victim of it had been spirited away from a hospital in the British zone to another in the Russian part of Vienna and forbidden to leave it.

Liane Sykora, a 16-year-old high school girl, and her adopted sister, Anne Marie Kurz, a nurse, were in a coffee house in the Russian zone when accosted by four Russian soldiers who asked them to go for a ride in Prater Park.

When the girls refused, the Russians, according to one account, produced revolvers. According to another account the girls, when the tried to run away outside the coffee house, were knocked unconscious by blows on the back of the neck.

What is established is that they were dragged into a taxi. When they reached Prater Park the girls were separated. The Sykora girl was found next morning dead from a bullet wound. The Kurz girl was dragged away by three of the men and when she resisted she was knocked unconscious. She came to with her jaw broken and her face a mass of bruises, apparently from having been trampled under foot.

The Austrian chauffeur of the taxi admitted that the girls had been kidnapped and that he heard a shot after they had been dragged away.

34j 1946

California

7380

7380

Boy, 15, Admits He Knifed Girl, 11, Who Resisted Him

The Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky.

Fri, 10-11-46

34j

Malibu Beach, Cal., Oct. 10 (U.P.)—Smiling as he talked, Joel Dean Penny, 15, today unconcernedly admitted knifing an 11-year-old girl who repulsed his attempts to rape her.

The girl, Cheryl McBride, tiny for her age, was in critical condition at Santa Monica Hospital. Attendants gave her an even chance to survive. Her throat was cut near the jugular vein and she was semiconscious from loss of blood.

The boy, when questioned by sheriff's investigators, admitted attempting to rape the girl and bragged of his accuracy in throwing a hunting knife at her from a distance of several feet.

"She hit me with a switch, so I threw my knife at her," Detective Lt. Garner Brown quoted the boy.

34j 1946 China 7381

CHINESE PARADERS ASK MARINES TO GO

The Times
New York, N.Y.
Tues, 12-31-46

Alleged Rape Causes Large Demonstrations in Peiping, Shanghai and Tientsin

34 j China

PEIPING, Dec. 30 (AP)—More than 6,000 university students staged a demonstration and parade through the streets today, demanding that the United States Marines leave China as the outgrowth of the alleged rape of a Chinese girl by a marine on Christmas Eve.

The movement had repercussions in Shanghai and Tientsin and is expected to spread throughout the country as newspapers played up the story and various student bodies appeared to be trying to excell in protesting the as-yet-unconfirmed incident.

The Peiping students, one-third of them girls, pasted placards on street cars and buildings and shouted: "Go home, U. S. Army, go home!"

The demonstration was orderly. Chinese police armed with machine guns patrolled the streets in force. Americans and their families were restricted to quarters by the American command.

The march started at Yenchin and Tsinghua Universities, seven miles outside the city limits. Tsinghua is Government-operated. Yenching was founded by United States Ambassador John Leighton Stuart and is dependent mainly on American funds for its continued existence.

The march went past Fujen Catholic University, where large numbers of students joined, and continued to the National University, where more recruits were added, then wound through the heart of the city.

Cheer leaders controlled the shouting, while brigades of poster-pasters and sidewalk writers covered every available space with such signs as "our Chinese daughters are not to be insulted," "you are lonely, you are homesick—go home," and "U. S. soldiers can do nothing but kill and rape."

In Tientsin students voted for a three-day strike. Shanghai students decided to send a petition to Gen. George C. Marshal, United States special envoy, demanding that the marines quit China.

The independent Shanghai newspaper men Wen Hu Pao devoted its front and back pages to stories and readers' complaints about the alleged rape. It carried such headlines as: "What Japanese troops did not do, American troops are doing," "American Marines' atrocities causes public anger," and "Withdrawal from China unanimously demanded."

The newspaper quoted Ma Ying-chu, financial expert, as saying the incident was a gross insult to China and "the United States has made China a colony where they may kill and violate women."

The Marine Corps announced that two marines were being held pending completion of a Chinese police inquiry into the rape charge. One of the marines said the girl was a prostitute. The Mayor of Peiping announced that medical examination of the girl showed no signs of rape. 12-31-46

34j 1946

England

7382

Pretty British Girl Relates Affair With Slayer Of Two

The Advertiser Montgomery, Ala

Wed. 9-25-46

By ED CREAGH

LONDON, Sept. 24.—(AP)—Attractive Yvonne Symonds in trembling sentences told a quiet courtroom today of her intimate romance with Neville George Heath who is accused of the mutilation murders of two pretty women.

34j

Allowed to sit after she once appeared about to faint in the witness box, Miss Symonds said the hotel in which she spent a night with Heath last June was the one in which Mrs. Margery Gardner's nude and beaten body was found less than a week later. Heath also is charged with the sex slaying of Doreen Marshall.

She testified that the 29-year-old former RAF flier had described to her later one of Mrs. Gardner's injuries—a wound apparently made by a "poker or similar instrument between the legs—which the prosecution says he could not have known about unless he was present when the woman was attacked.

The prosecutor, Anthony Hawke, said Mrs. Gardner had been slain by a man so perverted as to be "almost a monstrosity."

Medical witnesses said other injuries suffered by Mrs. Gardner, a former movie extra, included 17 whiplashes and "savage" bites.

Miss Symonds on cross-examination explained that she had stayed one night with Heath after they had first met because he "over-persuaded" her. She said it was her first experience and that Heath treated her "perfectly courteously."

She said he had discussed the Gardner case with her several days later and had expressed the view the thing must have been done by "a sexual maniac."

Queues stood outside Old Bailey throughout the day hoping for the coveted 30 seats in the public gallery. A peddler sold copies of "Heath's Life Story" outside, and afternoon newspapers gave the trial greater prominence than Prime Minister Stalin's statement on world affairs.

34j

Neatly dressed in a lounge suit, Heath scribbled notes to his lawyers during the testimony. He answered firmly "not guilty sir" when asked to plead at the opening of the trial.

7383

Bobby-Soxer Accuses Bandsman

Washington Post D.C.

Associated Press WIREPHOTO

TELLS OF INTIMACIES—Patricia (Jackie) Littleton (left), 16-year-old bobby-soxer, testified in a Los Angeles court that Swing Trombonist Walter R. (Benny) Benson (right) seduced her on a Hollywood hilltop and then drove her to attempt suicide because he seemed to grow tired of her. She broke into tears after two hours of describing her relations with the married musician, a member of Bob Crosby's band, charged with statutory rape. She told the court she was intimate with Benson on four occasions. Benson had nothing to say, but previously denied any intimacies with the girl, whom he said he hadn't even dated.

34j

Girl Sobs Tale Of Advances by Burma Hero

P.M. New York, N.Y.

Thur. 3-14-46

By Dick Armstrong and James Parlatore

A luscious, appetizingly stacked brunette of 24, whose smoldering black eyes were big like saucers, stepped into the witness box at Nassau County Court in Mineola yesterday morning. And into the leading role in a drama dripping with sex, booze and bestiality. She was Marguerite Gironda.

34j

In the same tiny courtroom where only a fortnight ago the amorous "Trigger" Nuber stood trial for stabbing his party woman to death while kissing her, the breathless spectators heard another story of the unpretty climaxes which, along toward dawn, Long Island joyrides are wont to reach.

Miss Gironda, who lives at 116 St. Marks Ave., Brooklyn, is a social worker (Phi Beta Kappa, too) who used to teach school. She is the State's star witness against Captain Grant R. Allen, a married man and father of two, who picked her up in a Brooklyn restaurant on Thanksgiving Eve and drove her out on the Island for a night's drinking. What happened on the way home is the reason why Captain Allen, twice-wounded hero of the Pacific war, is on trial for assault, sodomy and attempted rape. If convicted, he can go up for 10 years or so—maybe even 30.

Only 70 spectators can squeeze into Nassau's court. There are only a score of good seats, down front. There were only a score of women on hand for yesterday's proceedings. They came early, filled the best seats. And they listened, wrapt, to testimony that made the all-male jury wriggle in discomfiture. Some of the women covered their faces while cupping an ear. One matron smacked her lips now and then.

Miss Gironda, stylish in a navy blue tailored suit over a white blouse, with rings in the ears from which the hair was swept clear in a page-boy bob, was not long in getting to the point. Guided by David Holman, a bespectacled prosecutor with a closely clipped mustache, she told how Allen and a lieutenant friend approached her in the restaurant and persuaded her—on the plea that "we've been overseas so long and we're crazy for the companionship of American girls"—to go partying.

The drinking was done at a tavern in Lakeview. When the place closed, the lieutenant went home. Allen and Miss Gironda set sail for Brooklyn—until he took a reef, "in a very dark section behind a schoolhouse."

Here, said the witness, Allen's manner changed. The man who had won the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit and Purple Heart (with cluster) retreating with Stilwell in Burma now chose to advance. The witness, tearful, often choking, told it like this:

"He ordered me into the back seat. I refused. He grabbed me, violently, and pushed me into the back seat. He asked me to be nice to him. Thur. 3-14-46

"I protested. I said: 'I'm a virgin.' He ripped off my clothes. I screamed. He said to me: 'It won't do any good—nobody will hear you.' I continued to scream.

"He put one hand over my mouth. With the other one he squeezed my throat until I became unconscious. He poured whisky into my throat and revived me.

"Then he pulled me up onto the seat by my hair. I continued to resist. He kicked me. He beat me. Again I told him I was a virgin. I said I had no idea a captain in the United States Army was capable of such things.

"He said: 'If you don't satisfy me, I'm going to kill you.' He hit me, knocked one of my teeth out, told me he had killed two men overseas for the same thing.

"I kept praying it would get daylight soon and someone would come by. During the tussle I noticed on his illuminated watch dial that it was 5:30. He kept on saying: 'Hurry up, satisfy me—it's getting to be daylight—or I'll kill you.' He twisted my breast and I felt excruciating pain."

When Allen was at last satisfied, he took off his Infantry Combat Badge and presented it to Miss Gironda. He drove her home. There she fainted. When she came to, she staggered to the Bergen St. Police Station. An ambulance took her to Kings County Hospital, where she is said to have required the services of nine doctors and dentists.

Cross-examined yesterday afternoon by Edward E. Edstrom, Allen's stout lawyer who looks like a younger Herbert Hoover, she proved a spirited parrier, nobody's fool. Thur. 3-14-46

Edstrom tried to trip her on her assertion that Allen had demanded she "caress him, in order to stimulate him." The lawyer demanded how, if she were a virgin, she knew about stimulating males. Miss Geronda replied with suave dignity: "From my study of physiology and botany." The lawyer gulped, passed quickly to another point.

The cross-examination will continue when court reconvenes at 10 a.m. today.

Airman Held for Grand Jury On Girl-Branding Charges

Washington Post D.C.

HELEN STAVROU

Accuses Army air hero

Boston, April 24 (U.P.).—A young Army airman was ordered held for the grand jury by Municipal Judge Jennie Loitman Barron today in finding "probable cause" for charges that he burned his initials with lighted cigarettes on the body of an 18-year-old girl.

34j

Lieut. Thomas Farrell, 24, was freed on $10,000 bail pending action on six charges lodged against him by Miss Helen Stavrow, 18, civilian employe at Westover Field, where he is stationed.

Judge Barron found probable cause on two charges—rape and assault with intent to disfigure. On the other four charges, which included assault and morals complains, the court declined jurisdiction. Thurs. 4-25-46

During testimony yesterday and today, Miss Starvow described a 17-hour orgy in a hotel room of rape, unnatural acts, burning and slashing with a razor.

"This woman says she was raped, but she waited almost a month before going to the police with her charge," defense Attorney Herbert F. Callahan said.

"The law says—'Well, if you were raped, why didn't you complain about it?' You're supposed to complain at the first opportunity and not a month later."

Thornton Man Held for Rape; Girl Reported Seriously Hurt

Courier-Journal 5-1-46

Louisville, Ky.

Whitesburg, Ky., April 30 (AP)—Sheriff Herman C. Combs reported tonight that Hobart Deaton, 22, Thornton, Ky., had been lodged in Letcher County jail on a charge of raping a 18-year-old girl, now in serious condition in a hospital at near-by Fleming.

34j

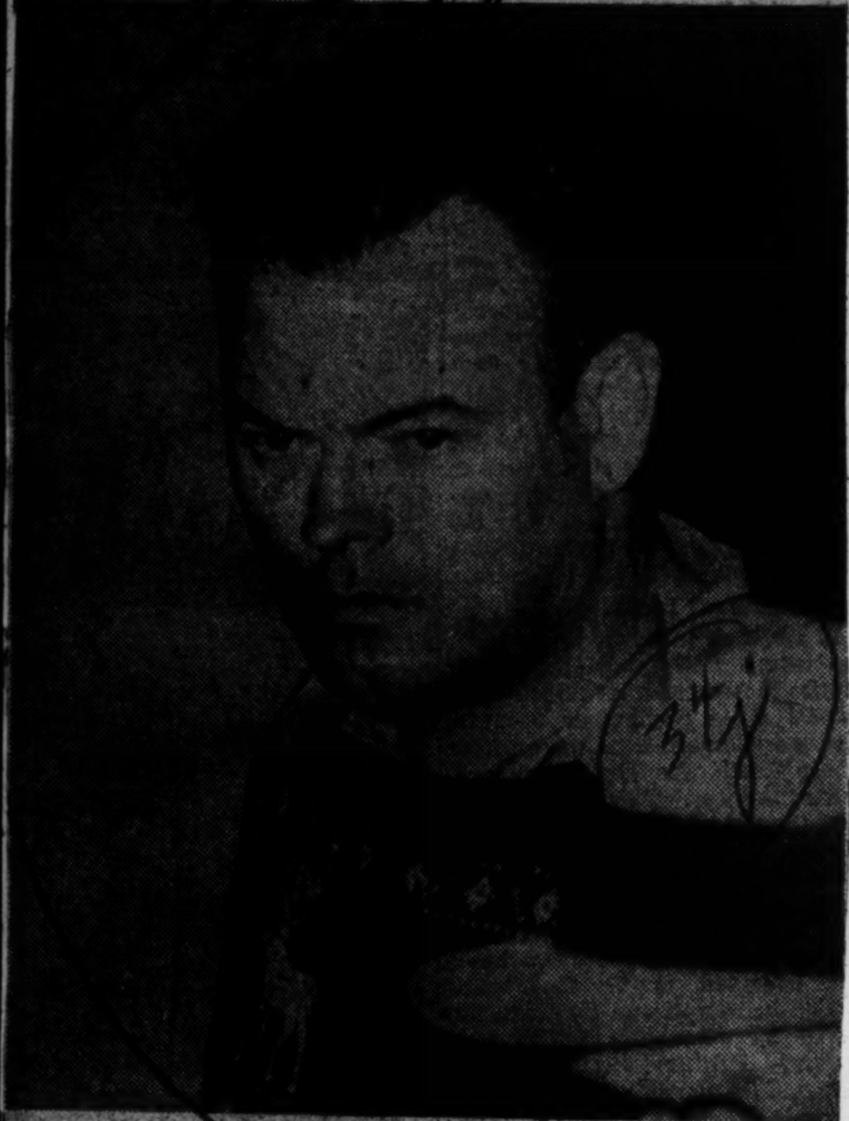
The sheriff said Deaton, formerly of Breathitt County, was being held without bond pending an examining trial not yet scheduled. 5-1-46 Wed.

Combs reported Deaton had admitted in a statement he assaulted the girl last night while the two and another couple were on a party on Pine Mountain, six miles from here. The other couple, identified by the sheriff as James M. Gibson, about 25, and Mrs. Cossie Adams, about 22, were lodged in the county jail on disorderly conduct charges.

Following the alleged assault, the girl left the party and walked the six miles to Whitesburg, the sheriff said, reaching the town barefoot, her body scratched and bruised. A son of the sheriff saw her and summoned aid.

Mother of 3 Says She Was Raped at Gun Point In Corcoran Gallery; Art Student Is Held

Washington Post



Post Staff Photo

James Robert McCullen, 31-year-old art student, is held without bond in the alleged rape of a G. W. U. coed

Coed Tells Police She Was a Prisoner 5 Hours In Deserted Building

Washington Post Washington D.C.

A 31-year-old art student was held without bond yesterday after a 25-year-old George Washington University coed charged he raped her and held her prisoner more than five hours in the Corcoran Art Gallery.

The young woman, mother of three children, told police she sought to elude her attacker in an eerie chase down the dark, empty corridors housing world-famous art treasures, only to find the heavy doors of the art gallery locked.

34

D.C.

Police listed the man as James Robert McCullen, discharged Army veteran, a student at Corcoran School of Art and until last week a guard at the art gallery, 17th st. and New York ave. nw.

The young woman, also a student at Corcoran, told police McCullen forced her at gunpoint to submit to him in his basement room he occupied as a guard in the dawn hours yesterday. Fri. 5-17-46

A clerk for the Civilian Production Administration, she said she had known McCullen since enrolling in the art classes last October.

She said that McCullen invited her to his room for a drink after she complained of feeling ill at the end of their classes Wednesday night about 10 o'clock.

Once in the room, McCullen made advances toward her, Detective Sergt. John Leighton of the sex squad, said she reported.

When she went to the second floor on the pretext of telephoning her parents, police said, the woman told them McCullen followed her and seized a pistol from a cupboard.

She said she then ran down the corridor and tried vainly to open the locked doors, whereupon McCullen strolled after her, brandished the gun and told her to go back downstairs "or I'll fill you full of holes."

Forced to Disrobe

Back in the room, McCullen forced her to disrobe and then assaulted her once, police said the young woman told them.

She said she was forced to return to the room "some time after midnight" and that she was released around 5 a. m., when McCullen escorted her to the door and warned her to say nothing of the incident. Fri 5-17-46

David Hughes, 84-year-old art gallery guard, said he went off duty at midnight and knew nothing of any disturbance.

Twice married, she said her husband has just recently returned from overseas but is not in Washington as yet.

Upon leaving the art gallery, police said she took a taxi to a private physician on Wyoming ave. nw., where police from the Third Precinct were notified. They took her to Gallinger Hospital, for an examination. Police arrested McCullen at the art gallery about 6 a. m.

McCullen indicated he would fight the case and has retained an attorney.

The pretty, auburn-haired mother said she had enrolled in the portrait and figures art class as part of her work toward a bachelor of arts degree at G. W., and that she hoped to enter commercial art work.

34

Uniontown Address Given

McCullen, who police said came here from Atlantic City, gave United States marshals a Uniontown, Pa., address. United States Commissioner Needham C. Turnage ordered him held without bond on a rape charge, which carries a maximum penalty of 30 years and, in cases where the jury so specifies, the death penalty. Fri. 5-17-46

Police said McCullen entered Corcoran Art School under the GI Bill of Rights after being discharged from the Army last September at Walter Reed Hospital, where McMullen said he was recovering from wounds received in action.

McCullen's work in fine arts, portraits and figures, was "very creditable," Richard Lahey, director of the school, said.

McCullen, a 6-foot-1, 225-pounder, had been a student in afternoon and evening classes, Lahey said. The young mother had been an "irregular" student in the night classes, police reported.

34

Married Cop Faces Rape Charge Today

PM New York N.Y.

Patrolman Andrew Hetzell, 31, of Ridgewood, L. I., married and father of three children, will be arraigned in Ridgewood Felony Court today on a charge of rape, which he has denied.

Hetzell was arrested yesterday on complaint of Catherine Fieseler, 24, an attractive brunette of Richmond Hill. Miss Fieseler said she and a girl riend attended a dance of the Queens Dexter Carriers Assn. at Lost Battalion Hall in Elmhurst Saturday night, and that on leaving they met Hetzell and another cop, unidentified, whom both girls knew. Both policemen had just gone off duty and were in uniform.

Miss Fieseler said the four went to a nearby bar, had some drinks, and left at 3 a.m. in Hetzell's car. Hetzell drove the other girl and cop home first, she said, and then, five blocks from her home, raped her in the front seat of the car.

On Sunday, Mother's Day, Miss Fieseler filed the complaint, but detectives who went to Hetzell's home for the pinch found he was in Oakdale with his family, visiting his wife's mother. He was picked up on his return at 2 a.m. The formal charge was filed after he was questioned by Chief Assistant District Attorney Joseph Loscalzo.

34

N.Y.

16-Year-Old Boy Held For Criminal Assault

Advertiser

BOSTON, April 20.—(AP)—A 16-year-old boy was charged in Roxbury district court today with raping two women and attempting to rape another after creeping through windows into their bedrooms in the dead of night and threatening them with a doctor's scalpel.

The youth was ordered committed to the Boston Psycopathic Hospital for observation by Judge Samuel Eisenstadt.

Detectives said the boy was a part-time attendant at a Boston hospital and a high school student.

Two of his alleged victims were Negroes while the third was a white woman, the officers added. Sun 4-21-46

Police officials said the boy's own statements were the first word of the alleged crimes, inasmuch as none of the women had reported the assaults.

Officers quoted the women as saying that, in each case, the boy located an open window and, once in their bedrooms, attempted to cut off their nightgowns with the scalpel.

34

Mass

Girl Sobs Out Story of Rape By 3 Youths

Washington Post Washington D.C.

Tue. 5-14-46

A 19-year-old Seat Pleasant, Md. girl yesterday sobbed out the story of a two-hour ordeal in which she was raped by three men, two of them twice.

The girl, testifying in Prince Georges County circuit court at Marlboro, identified two of her attackers as James Clarence Raymond Washington, 18, and Willie Gray Taylor, 15, both of Huntsville.

34

D.C.

The attack took place, she said, from 1:15 to 3:30 a. m. in a clearing near a former schoolhouse site 30 feet off Sheriff rd., in Huntsville.

Her companion, Donald Beyer, 20, former Coast Guardsman, testified he was held at the point of a gun with the attackers taking turns guarding him and attacking the girl.

Much of the trial time was consumed as defense counsel sought to prevent admission of signed confessions, charging they were made "under duress." Detective Richard A. Pearson insisted no violence or threats were used in obtaining the statements.

Charles Ross, 20, and his brother, Walter, 21, are also charged with rape and the robbery of the couple. They will be tried in Anne Arundel County, their counsel having obtained a change of venue. Tue. 5-14-46

Washington, through Attorney Robert W. McCullough, has entered pleas of not guilty by reason of insanity and not guilty. Taylor entered a not guilty plea. The pair is not being tried on the robbery charges.

Washington is also charged with the murder of 61-year-old Mrs. Annie Jones of White House Heights, February 7.

Ex-Kentuckian Freed Of Rape-Murder Count

Courier Journal

Edgartown, Mass., May 1 (AP)—Harold Tracey, 43, formerly of Vanceburg, Ky., was free today after District Attorney Frank E. Smith dropped prosecution on charges of murder and rape of Mrs. Clara M. Smith, 73, Boston Christian Science reader, who was slain here in 1940.

Smith told the court evidence was lacking to support an indictment.

Tracey was paroled after serving a year of a 10-year sentence for jail-breaking in order that he might stand trial for Mrs. Smith's murder.

34

GIRL ACCUSES PATROLMAN

Queens Man Arrested After Drive in His Car

New York

Patrolman Andrew Hetzel of the Maspeth station was arrested in the office of the Queens District Attorney last evening on a charge of rape.

According to the complaint, Hetzel, who is 31 years old and married, met a fellow-patrolman outstide Lost Battalion Hall, Queens Boulevard, Elmhurst, after completing his tour of duty last Saturday midinght. Both were in uniform. The other patrolman introduced him to two girls who had been attending a military ball at the hall, and Hetzel offered them a lift home. The alleged attack occurred in his automobile, after he had driven the other patrolman and one of the young women to their homes. Tue. 5-14-46

34

N.Y.

False Testimony in Detroit Rape Case

PM New York N.Y.

Frank Lobaido, Detroit grocer, on trial for the rape and attempted murder of a 7-year-old girl, lost his best witness yesterday when Virginia La Verne, 19, a waitress, returned to the stand to confess that she had perjured herself when she swore she was with him at the time of the crime, having spent the previous night in his company. Weeping, she told the jury she testified falsely to please Lobaido's brother with whom she was in love.

34

7384

7384

Woman, Daugher Assaulted, Berrien County Man Held

The Atlanta Ga. Constitution

Constitution State News Bureau.

TIFTON, April 23—A Berrien County white man, William A. Bennett, is in the county jail at Nashville on charges of assaulting a woman and her 14-year-old daughter after entering their home and forcing them at the point of a knife to accompany him to a secluded woods area near their home, according to W. A. Ross, GBI Investigator here.

The woman, about 40 years old, and her daughter, both residents of Berrien County, first unfolded their story of a terror-filled night—spent only a few hundred yards from their own home— before Sheriff N. N. Hughes, sheriff of the county, shortly before dawn Saturday morning after they had escaped from their captor.

According to the account given the sheriff, a masked white man entered the woman's home late Friday night, picked up a butcher knife, and with the knife forced the women to accompany him about 100 yards down the road from their home, and then into the woods about half a mile from the road. Wed. 4-24-46

Their captor is alleged to have attacked the woman first, then assaulted the girl and left. The women made their way to a nearby farmhouse where neighbors called the sheriff.

Sheriff Hughes started his investigation immediately after hearing the story, and GBI authorities here began working on the case shortly afterward.

Hughes arrested Bennett Sunday on charges of assault.

The arrested youth, Ross said, is 19 years old, and he was discharged from the service two months ago. The son of a farmer near Ray City, he is being held without bond. The sheriff stated his trial will be held at the September term of Superior Court when the grand jury convenes.

34j

Policeman Accused Of Rape Dropped From Ark. Force

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—A white policeman, who was once accused of attempted rape of a 19-year-old Negro girl, was denied re-instatement on the Little Rock police force by the civil service commissioner this week.

The refusal to re-instate former Officer Dan W. Ellard came after city officials received strong protests from the local NAACP and other civic organizations.

Ellard, who stated that he would take court action, was suspended when he, another patrolman and a taxi driver were accused of assaulting a local girl in 1942. The NAACP letter declared:

"Re-employment of a man who, instead of upholding the law, has stooped low enough to bring disgrace upon his race and injury upon the Negro race, is a thing we do not believe fair-minded people would encourage."

34j

Arlington Man Faces Sex Charge

Washington Post
D.C.

A 36-year-old man was charged with carnal knowledge of a 5-year-old girl yesterday in Arlington County Court.

Released on $5000 bond, Stanley C. Crawford of 702 S. Barton st., will face the charges on May 28, the case having been continued until that date by Judge Hugh [illegible] said. Sun. 5-19-46

Police said a playmate of the child's, who was with Crawford and the girl in a field between Courthouse rd. and Fillmore st., asked them to investigate the man's actions. Crawford, who told police he was a meter reader for the Washington Gas Light Co., entered a plea of not guilty. 5-19-46

34j

Rape Victim, 7 Tells Her Story To Detroit Jury

G. M. New York, N.Y.
Fri 4-12-46

By James T. Howard

Rosalie Giganti, 7, in a freshly ironed pink dress with blue anklets and a new ribbon in her hair, was called to the witness stand in Recorders Court in Detroit. It was a revolting story she had to tell so to make it easier for all concerned, the chair was placed directly in front of the jury box. The jurors—14 women and four men—grouped themselves on one side of the rail, while judge, lawyers, stenographer gathered close around Rosalie on the other side. Frank Lobaido, 29, was brought just close enough to hear the testimony of the girl he is accused of raping and knifing in his neighborhood grocery.

"I picked out two loaves of bread myself and laid them on the counter," the little girl whispered. "I told the man I wanted a carton of milk. I gave him a dollar and he gave me 60 cents change. Then I stayed in the store because he said he would give me a bottle of pop and a balloon. The man locked the door of the store."

"Who do you mean by 'the man?'" asked the prosecutor.

"I mean him; I mean Frank," said Rosalie, swiveling around in her chair and pointing. Lobaido stared blankly ahead, seemed not to listen as Rosalie went on:

"He took me in the back room. He laid me on a table and took my clothes off and did something bad to me."

Her voice was so low that the stenographer had to ask for a repeat and she recited the last sentence again, choking on the words.

"Then," she concluded, "he took me out of the back room and cut my throat and laid me in the garbage can. I don't remember how long I was in it." Fri 4-12-46

The prosecutor wanted to know how, in her desperate condition, she had managed to get out of the garbage can and drag herself to a picket fence where a woman passer-by found her.

"I prayed to God to help me climb out," said Rosalie. It all took 15 minutes.

34j

Girl Testifies To Alleged Rape By Two Youths

Times-Dispatch
Richmond, Va.
Tues 5-14-46

UPPER MARLBORO, MD., May 13—(AP)—A 19-year-old Seat Pleasant girl testified in Prince Georges County Circuit Court today that she was assaulted by three of four youths who accosted her and a companion while they were seated in a parked car near Huntsville, Md., the night of March 17.

The girl and her companion, Donald Beyer, 20, former Coast Guardsman, identified two of the attackers as James Clarence Raymond, Washington, 16, and Willie Gray Taylor, 15, of Huntsville, who are being tried on rape charges. The girl told the court these two youths raped her twice.

Beyer testified that he and the girl were discussing marriage plans in his car when a voice shouted, "hey," and ordered them out of the car. He said Taylor pointed a gun at him. When Taylor got him out of the car, he said, one of the youths took the gun and covered Beyer while the others alternated in attacking the girl. Tues 5-14-46

A plea of not guilty on grounds of insanity was entered for Washington, who also is charged with murder in connection with the death February 7 of Mrs. Annie Jones, 61, of White House Heights, Md. A plea of not guilty was entered for Taylor.

Charles Ross, 20, and his brother, Walter, 21, of Brightseat, Md., also held in the rape case, will be tried later in Anne Arundel County Circuit Court. Their attorney obtained a change of vende.

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7385

Taxi Driver Held On Rape Charge

Washington Star
Washington, D.C.

34j

Charlottesville, Va., Feb. 16 (Spl.)—A 28-year-old taxicab driver, charged with the attempted rape of a 19-year-old white girl, was ordered held for the grand jury, following a hearing yesterday afternoon in Police Court.

The cab driver was arrested last Sunday night on the complaint of the girl, who said she left a Trailway bus near the University Hospital shortly before 1 a. m. the morning of February 4 and hailed a taxi to go to her home on a downtown street. 2-17-46

An artificial flower which the girl said was torn from her coat was found in the taxicab office three days later when she went there in an attempt to identify the taxi driver.

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3 Held, One Sought On Rape Charges At Scottsville

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Wed 2-27-46

34j

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Scottsville, Ky., Feb. 26.—Three natives of Barren County were under arrest and a fourth was sought today by Allen and Barren County officers on charges of rape preferred by a 34-year-old woman from Chattanooga, Tenn., who with her husband was picked up by the four while hitchhiking Sunday on the Glasgow Highway.

Those under arrest and held in County Jail here in default of $15,000 bond each are Winfred G. Wyatt, 22, Glasgow, R.R. 6, alias Jack Kinslow, a World War II veteran; Roy Lee Williams, 27, Austin, Ky., and George Payne, 57, Glasgow, R.R. 1.

They were arrested on a warrant issued by Magistrate Denton Reaves on affidavit of the woman, County Attorney Douglas Keen said. Examining trial has been set for 10 a.m. Thursday in Reaves' court. Wed. 2-27-46

Keen said the fourth man named in the warrant is Reid Payne, native of the Austin Lucas community of Barren County.

Nine-Year-Old Girl Abducted, Assaulted

Advertiser

ELGIN, ILL., Jan. 9.—(AP)—A nine-year-old girl was abducted and raped today while on her way to school with two smaller sisters and a 17-year-old farm youth of nearby Barrington was charged with kidnaping. 1-10-46

34j

Police Chief Joseph Huber said the girl noted the youth's automobile license number when she was released from his car about a mile from her home and that she subsequently identified James Zenk as her abductor. The chief said Dr. Andrew J. Nowakowski reported a medical examination showed the girl had been raped.

Montgomery

Zenk, arrested at his home after the license number report, was charged with kidnaping in a warrant signed by Lt. Robert Koch, and was questioned further by city authorities.

Ala.

Hubert said Zenk denied the attack but said he had been in Elgin this morning to buy paint and other materials. 1-10-46

Police Grill Detroit Grocer In Child's Throat Slashing

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

DETROIT, Jan. 28—(UP)—A 7-year-old girl fought for life in a hospital tonight while police grilled the husky young grocer she identified as the man who cut her throat.

34j

Little Rosalie Giganti, throat bandaged where the attacker's knife had cut her vocal nerve, had identified Frank Lobaido by weak nods. Stains on his clothes were identified chemically today as dried human blood.

Mich.

The 29-year-old Lobaido persisted in his denials. 1-29-46

Lobaido was arrested shortly after the girl was found draped over a blood-spatteretd gate yesterday. He was held on charges of rape and attempted murder.

Police arrested Lobaido in his grocery and took him to the hospital. Martin Paulsmo asked Rosalie three questions:

"Is this the man who did this to you? Did he choke you? . . . Did he put his hand over your mouth to keep you from screaming?"

The child nodded, holding her throat.

Police said Lobaido has been arrested four times previously and was placed on probation for two years in May, 1943, for assault with intent to rape.

Police sought to account for Lobaido's whereabouts on January 7, when Suzanne Degnan, 6-year-old daughter of an OPA executive, was slain and dismembered in Chicago. Lobaido denied he had been away from Detroit for four months.

Rosalie's father, Jacob Giganti, sent Rosalie to the Lobaido grocery for milk and bread. She didn't return.

Zoo Director Charged With Statutory Rape

MILWAUKEE, April 2—(AP)—Henry M. Kennon, one of the nation's leading herpetologists and director of the Washington Park Zoo, was arraigned yesterday in District Court following his arrest on a warrant charging him with statutory rape involving a 17-year-old high school girl.

34j

Wis.

Kennon entered no plea. Judge Harvey L. Neelen set April 13 for the preliminary hearing and put bail at $500. Wed. 4-3-46

Detective Capt. Adolph Kramer said Kennon, who is 50, was arrested Sunday night at zoo headquarters with the girl and that they had admitted being intimate on several occasions.

Kennon, superintendent of anthropoids at the St. Louis Zoological Gardens from 1930 to 1941, is married and the father of a son who is in the service.

Girl, 9, Kidnaped And Attacked; Youth, 17, Jailed

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

1-10-46

ELGIN, Ill., Jan. 9.—(UP)—Police Wednesday arrested James Zenk, 17-year-old Barrington (Ill.) high school student, on a charge of kidnaping Mary Lou Jennings, 9, as she was on her way to school.

34j

Dr. Andrew Nowakowski examined the girl and said she had been attacked, police said.

Mary Lou and her two sisters, Joy, 6, and Diana, 5, were abducted by a motorist on their way to school, police said. The two younger girls managed to get out of the car when the driver stopped because of a flat tire, they said.

Zenk was arrested after Mary Lou recalled the license number of his automobile, police said. The automobile belonged to Ray Dittrich, Zenk's grandfather.

The youth then was brought to police headquarters, where Mary Lou identified him as her abductor, police said.

9-Year-Old Farm Girl Beaten With Hammer Shot By Salesman, 30

Birmingham News
Birmingham, Ala.

JOLIET, Ill., March 21—(AP)—A 9-year-old farm girl was in serious condition in a hospital today after she was beaten with a hammer and shot several times yesterday when she resisted advances of a man Prosecutor James E. Burke identified as James F. Lincoln, Jr., 30, father of two small children and son of a wealthy Cleveland industrialist. Thur. 3-21-46

34j

Burke said Lincoln was held in jail without formal charge and had signed a statement admitting the attack. He said no charge had been filed pending outcome of the child's injuries. Ala.

Victim of the attack, Carol Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Williams, who live on a farm four miles east of Joliet, suffered a possible skull fracture, the result of the hammer blows, bullet wounds in the right hip, in the upper right arm and shoulder and in the left side of the chest. Physicians said it was not immediately determined how many bullets had struck her.

Lincoln's father, whom the salesman identified as James Finney Lincoln, Sr., president of the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland, was reported en route to Joliet by plane. 3-21-46

In River Forest, a Chicago suburb,, Lincoln's wife, Laura, an expectant mother, described her husband as "a wonderful husband and father" and at first refused to believe he was in custody.

"He loves children and he hasn't any gun in his car, I know that," Mrs. Lincoln said. Later she talked to her husband in jail and said she will "stick by him" and will obtain legal counsel. Their children are a daughter, 5, and James, III, 3.

SHOOTING CHILD CHARGED TO MAN

Birmingham
Ala.

JOLIET, Ill., March 21—(AP)—James F. Lincoln, Jr., 30, father of two children, was named today in a warrant charging assault" with intent to kill in the hammer-rifle assault on a nine-year-old girl, which his wealthy industrialist father blamed on an old brain injury.

34j

The elder Lincoln, a Cleveland manufacturer, arrived in Joliet with Lloyd Heth, a Chicago lawyer, asserting he was ready to fight the charge "all the way." Fri. 3-22

The attack victim, Carol Williams, who lives on a farm four miles east of here, was reported still in critical condition in a Joliet hospital, but was expected to recover. An attending physician said preliminary examination indicated she had been shot six times, five of the bullets passing through her hips and shoulders, and her skull may have been fractured by hammer blows. One bullet remained lodged in her abdomen.

Lincoln said his osns's skull was fractured to the base of the brain in an automobile accident 10 years ago and "there is not the slightest doubt that this even is directly traceable to that injury."

He added: "There has never been in his past life any semblance of anything like this, . . . and the fact that he told the girl's father instead of running away is perfectly in character."

Lincoln Sales Representative

Young Lincoln is Chicago sales representative for the company his father heads, the iLncoln Electric Company.

State's Attorney James E. Burke said young Lincoln had confessed giving the victim a ride the day before the assault. In a signed confession, Burke said, Lincoln related this story:

He picked up Carol and two children on Tuesday and gave them a ride. The next day he offered Carol a ride, but instead of taking her home from school, turned his car onto a dirt road and made advances to her.

When she began to cry, he hit her on the head with a hammer, breaking the handle. The girl screamed, jumped from his car and ran toward the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Williams. Lincoln fired at her with a .22 caliber rifle.

Burke said Lincoln's car had become stuck in the mud and that Lincoln followed the girl to her home, where he told her parents what had happened and asked them to call the sheriff. Mrs. Williams rushed Carol to a hospital.

Wife To 'Stick By' Lincoln

In suburban River Forest, Lincoln's wife, Laura, and expectant mother, described her husband as a "wonderful husband and father" and asserted she would "stick by" him. Their children are a daughter, Lucy, 5, and a son, Jeff, 3.

The assault with intent to kill warrant was obtained from Justice of the Peace Walter J. Schoop by Burke, who signed the complaint himself. He said he had not yet served the warrant on Lincoln, however, pending outcome of the girl's condition. Fri-3-22-46

In Chicago, meanwhile, two police lieutenants assigned to a routine investigation of the kidnap-slaying in aJnuary of six-year-old Suzanne Degnan left for Joliet to question Lincoln.

The elder Lincoln said he would make arrangements to supply the little victim with "the best medical care obtainable."

After a short conference with Burke, in which he saw his son, Lincoln told newsmen:

"The boy's mind is in an entirely different condition than I have ever seen before. Something has gone wrong. The boy has no appreciation of what happened and does not know why. He is obviously telling the truth."

Raped Girl Found After Cliff Fall; Two Held in Case

Times Dispatch
Richmond, Va.

Tues 4-30-46

PAINTSVILLE, KY., April 29—(AP)—Two men were lodged in the Johnson County jail today on charges of rape and attempting to rape a 15-year-old girl who later fell over a cliff, breaking both legs, and lay out in the open for two days and nights before her plight was discovered.

34j

Trooper Ray Bayes, of the State Highway Patrol, said that Ernest Fannin and J. D. Meek were being held without bond on warrants issued by Magistrate Herschel McCloud.

Bayes said the alleged attack occurred in a wooded section at the head of isolated Bob's Branch, five miles east of here. The girl was believed to have fallen over the cliff in the dark after the men drove away in their car, the trooper added.

Saturday, he said, the girl, still conscious but unable to move, heard foxhunters' dogs and attracted the attention of the hunters. Tues-4-30-46

The girl is in serious condition in a Paintsville hospital.

Typist Tells Of Dating Man She Says Raped Her

BOSTON, April 24—(AP)—Testimony of an 18-year-old typist at Westover Army Airfield that she went out with an air force officer after he allegedly slashed, burned and raped her was in the record of the trial of Lt. Thomas Farrell, 24, today.

34j

Mass.

Miss Helen Stavron, alias Stavrau, of Holyoke, testified yesterday that she visited night clubs with the Somerville Air Force veteran two nights after she maintained he burned initials on her breast, slashed her legs with a razor blade and raped her during a night of torture in a Boston hotel room last March.

The girl testified Farrell asked forgiveness during the night club tour and she pretended to forgive. She testified earlier she had had an argument with the Army officer over his attentions to another girl.

Twelve Little Scared White Men

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

(Reprint from Birmingham WORLD, Birmingham, Ala.)

Truth got a rare hearing in Memphis last week . . . and then was "lynched" on a scaffold of prejudice by twelve little scared white men.

1-31-46

"And they bend their tongues like bows for lies; but they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil;" . . . wrote the Prophet's word fit neatly in the case of the travesty on Justice carried in the "Not Guilty" verdict returned by the twelve little scared white men, relative to the two young Memphis Negro women accused two former police officers of raping them last summer.

34j

Tenn.

It is not necessary here to dwell on the details of the trial. It is pertinent however to point out that from the evidence brought out in open court and graphically reported in the daily press, with the confirmation of court spectators it is difficult to understand how the jury reached the verdict it did. It must be conceded that, regardless of any latent suspicions that may be entertained by the cynical Attorney General Wm. Gerbey and his staff presented a good case for the prosecution. Prosecution witnesses . . . including many low and high ranking members of the Police Department . . . gave damaging testimony. History was made by the mere fact that such a case was tried in a Memphis Court. Negroes may gain some slight consolation from the fact. But the answer to their larger question . . . the fundamental question . . . . the one Attorney General Gerbey asked when he pointed it to the jury "Are you going to convict a white man for raping a Negro woman?" . . . . was answered in the negative.

Thrusday

Twelve little scared white men said, quickly and emphatically, "No!"

One is tempted to wax philosophically when he stops to consider why those twelve little scared white men said "No!" The answer goes back into the nature of our current American and world society. It is found in that underlying dry rot of moral degeneracy summed up in the "White Supremacy" system . . . . a form . . . . a way of living based on fear of competition, covetousness, and selfishness . . . . a system which at once gives the lie to all protestations of a love of Truth, Justice, Fair Play, Democracy, and human brotherhood. Most white men are just as much victims of the system as are Negroes. They are afraid to buck it.

They were afraid to do otherwise. They had to remain "respectable." A "respectable" white man in our present social order is one who, when a show down comes, pays homage to the accepted order of things . . . . "white supremacy". No doubt most of the twelve little scared white men on that jury have Negro friends whom they like. No doubt taken individually they would risk their lives in defense of their homes and country. But equally no doubt, they lack the moral courage to turn ther backs on the false god of their system. They are not alone. No doubt, there is many a Negro in Memphis, who, if he had served on that jury, would have voted "not guilty." . . . . Thus exhibiting a similar fear of the great god called the Social Order.

The more one looks at it the easier it is to see why those twelve little scared white men couldn't make the grade for Justice, not even in the face of apparently overwhelming evidence to justify their doing so.

1-31-46

After all, our modern society rests on force; force is worshipped as the August foundation of our current world. Those men could have been forced out of their jobs if they had decided any other way; they could have been forced out of their families, their social set could have lost the esteem of their friends . . . . might have lost their white "respectability." But we don't believe any of that would have happened to them. However, they believed it and were scared. They had been called upon to do a Christian's job in a pagan world. They were being asked to carry Christ's cross on the way to Calvary between the surging roars of the hard-eyed mob. They couldn't do it. They were afraid that the crowd would laugh and stone them. So, the twelve little scared white men squirmed under the pitiless glare of the crowd's notice and turned and spat in the Crucified's face. They thought that might amuse the crowd and permit them to return to their comforting obscurity. Whatever happened to them was enough to leave them wearing a terrible brand to carry up to the bar of final Justice.

34j Tenn.

As for the two accused men whom they released, we return to Prophet who said, "for behold, I will send serpents, cocatrices among you, which will not be charmed, and they shall bite you saith the Lord."

And as for the rest of us . . . . other Negroes with our wives, mothers, daughters . . . . we must take courage. It's a long, hard road to travel with little light and little help. The Prophet knew that when he remarked, "For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I hurt: I am black; astonishment hath taken hold on me . . . . is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? . . . . why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?" (Jeremiah 8:21, 22).

1-31-46

Ours is not a unique position. It has happened to other peoples. They endured and over-came. They just kept struggling. So must we. Every time a Negro is mistreated, he should seek every legal . . somewhere, sometime we may run across twelve "big," "brave" means to bring the matter to trial. We can't keep losing always . . men . . . . black or white.

Girl Admits Lying in Effort To Clear Man of Rape Charge

Dayton Dispatch Fri 4-19-46

Richmond, Va.

DETROIT, April 18—(UP)—A pretty, 19-year-old waitress tearfully confessed today that her love for the brother of Frank Lobaido, accused of raping and slashing the throat of a 7-year-old girl, caused her to perjure herself yesterday in an attempt to prove his innocence.

34j Mich.

Virginia La Verne, a Nashville, Tenn., girl who came to Detroit last Fall seeking work, testified yesterday that she was intimate with Lobaido the night before his alleged attack on little Rosalie Giganti and that she was in his East Side grocery at the time the child said he raped her, slashed her throat and tossed her into a refuse can.

Returned to the stand today under heavy police guard, Miss La Verne fingered a rosary until Prosecutor Gerald K. O'Brien asked her point-blank:

"Was your testimony yesterday true?"

She shook her head negatively, burst into tears and buried her face in her hands.

Saw Him Night Before

Miss La Verne said she saw Frank briefly the night before the attack and "never saw him again until I visited him at the jail with his brother, Tony."

During that visit, she said, Frank asked her to testify that she was in the store at the time of the attack and to say she had had sexual relations with him the night before Rosalie was assaulted.

Fri 4-19-46

"I said I would do it because I love Tony," she testified.

Today she denied ever having been intimate with Frank. She said yesterday's testomony that she returned to the store to retrieve a pair of gloves was "made up" because Frank asked her to "think up some reason why she should have been in the store."

O'Brien said Tony Lobaido had been arrested in connection with Miss La Verne's perjury.

Rape-Slasher Found Guilty At Detroit

Times Dispatch

Richmond, Va.

Mich.

DETROIT, April 25—(UP)—A jury deliberated only 11 minutes today to find Frank Lobaido, 29, grocer, guilty of the rape and knifing of 7-year-old Rosalie Giganti.

34j Mich.

Lobaido was found guilty of rape and attempted murder. Both carry maximum penalties of life imprisonment. He will be sentenced May 1.

Lobaido raped Rosalie in the back room of his grocery store January 27, split her throat twice with a butcher knife and left her for dead in a garbage can.

The black-haired child lived to name him as her attacker from the witness stand during his 10-day trial. She has recovered from her injuries.

Judge Gerald W. Groat congratulated the jury of eight women and four men, on its decisions, calling it a "rightful and just thing."

Fri 4-26-46

Lobaido took the decision without emotion. He chewed gum and crossed his legs and arms while the verdict was read.

In his own testimony, Lobaido denied the crime. Little Rosalie testified for four hours as to the incidents of a Sunday morning when she went to Lobaido's store for milk and bread.

Serving Of Warrant In Child Attack Case Delayed Temporarily

Birmingham News

Birmingham Ala.

JOLIET, Ill., March 22—Prosecutor James E. Burke today delayed serving a warrant charging assault with intent to kill against James F. Lincoln, Jr., 30, in the hammer bating and shooting of a 9-year-old farm girl, pending outcome of the child's condition.

Fri 3-22-46

Lincoln, father of two small children and son of a wealthy Cleveland industrialist, remained in the Will County jail without a formal charge being filed. Burke, who said the salesman son of the Cleveland manufacturer had admitted beating the Williams girl with a hammer and shooting her several times Wednesday after she resisted his advances, asserted he would oppose Lincoln's release on bond.

34j

At the Silver Cross Hospital, the physician attending the Williams girl, who suffered a fractured skull by hammer blows and was shot six times as she fled from Lincoln's car, said it would be at least a week before he would give any prediction of her recovery.

A preliminary examination, the physician said, indicated the child had been shot six times, five bullets passing through her hips and shoulders and one remaining in her abdomen. He reported her condition as "critical."

Mrs. George Williams has not left her daughter's bedside at the hospital since she took her there Wednesday after the child fled from Lincoln's car a half mile from her farm home.

The elder Lincoln, president of the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland, accompanied by Attorney Lloyd Heth, of Chicago, met his son yesterday in the state's attorney's office. Later he said he was ready to fight the charge "all the way." He said his son's skull was fractured in an automobile accident 10 years ago and "there is not the slightest doubt that this event is directly traceable to that injury."

Fri. 3-22-46

Young Lincoln, Chicago sales representative for his father's firm, is the father of a daughter, Lucy, 5, and a son, Jeff, 3. His wife, Laura, an expectant mother, described Lincoln as a "wonderful husband and father," and asserted she would "stick by" him.

Youth, 16, Held In Unreported Rape of Two

Courier Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Sun 4-21-46

Boston, April 20 (AP)—A 16-year-old boy was charged in Roxbury District Court today with raping two women and attempting to rape another after creeping through windows into their bedrooms in the dead of night and threatening them with a doctor's scalpel.

34j Mass.

The youth was ordered committed to the Boston Psycopathic Hospital for observation.

Detectives said the boy was a part-time attendant at a Boston hospital and a high school student.

Sun 4-21-46

Two of his alleged victims were Negroes while the third was a white woman, the officers added. None of the women had reported the assaults.

Girl 17, Accuses Six Students of Attack Attempt

Atlanta Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

5-30-46-Th.

34j

A 17-year-old white girl, who lives on Seminole Ave., told police six high school students attempted to attack her yesterday shortly after noon at a lonely spot on Lenox Rd.

A waitress in a Peachtree St. restaurant, the girl told Radio Patrolmen T. M. Stribling and S. B. McGarity she went to a downtown movie in the morning. As she was leaving, she told police, she met the youths, one of whom she said she knew.

Ga.

They offered her a ride home, she said, but went out Lenox Rd., where they tore her coat and dress and attempted the attack.

After dragging her through the mud, police quoted the girl as saying, the boys got in their car to leave. They noticed her trying to get the car's license number, she said, then stopped, got out of the car and threw rocks at her.

Fulton County police will investigate.

Assault Charge Holds Suspect After Attack

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

34j

A 20-year-old Atlanta garage attendant has been arrested by Fulton County police on charges of assault with intent to murder, larceny of an automobile and assault.

The 21-year-old victim, a married woman, told police that she was driving from her home in Chamblee through Atlanta Tuesday afternoon when her car developed motor trouble.

Stopping at a filling station on Memorial Drive, she said an attendant, later identified by her as Leland Colbert, of 667 South Pryor St., asked her to let him drive to test the car.

Ga.

He drove her out near East Point, she said, then hit her on the head with a rock, attempted to tear her clothes off, assaulted her and then absconded with her automobile. She reported to East Point police and was taken to Grady Hospital for examination and treatment.

Based on her description, County Policemen Q. F. Hays and Hiram Darrett arrested Colbert at his home. He denied implication in the affair, police said, but was taken to Fulton Tower.

E. M. Blunt, of the East Point police, reported that the woman's car was recovered behind the East Point City Hall following an anonymous phone call giving its location.

✓

Girl Says Wife Aided Man In Assault Effort

34j

MACON, Sept. 16—Warrants charging Mr. and Mrs. Louis O'Neal, of Rossville, with assault and battery with intent to criminally assault were filed Monday with Twiggs County Sheriff W. E. Hambrick at Jeffersonville by parents of the victim, an 18-year-old Wilkinson County girl.

The victim of the attack, a Macon Vocational School student, told police that Mrs. O'Neal beat her, tore off her clothing and left her nude in an abandoned Twiggs County clay pit early Sunday morning.

Atlanta, Ga.

Sheriff Hambrick said that Macon detectives picked up O'Neal, 38, Sunday in a Macon hotel. The Twiggs Sheriff has asked police in Georgia, Tennessee and Kentucky to be on the lookout for Mrs. O'Neal, who is believed to be en route to Lexington, Ky., on a bus. Hambrick described Mrs. O'Neal as being 30 years of age, about 135 pounds, five feet six inches and a brunette.

Tues. 9-17-46

The victim said she was beaten by Mrs. O'Neal after she had refused to submit to immoral advances by O'Neal. She was badly beaten about the face and head, and one eye was swollen and shut.

Hambrick said that a motorist saw the complainant walking along Jeffersonville highway toward Macon about 2 a. m. Sunday with only the remnants of her badly torn clothing wrapped about her body. The driver, named Etheridge, tried to take the girl to a physician, but she insisted that he take her to the home of her parents in Wilkinson County between Gordon and Jeffersonville.

According to the Twiggs Sheriff, the girl met Mrs. O'Neal Friday night in a barbecue stand on the outskirts of Macon. Mrs. O'Neal invited the girl to go riding with them Saturday, but she refused at first because of plans to go to her home for the weekend. When the O'Neals promised to drive her to Wilkinson County later, she accepted. They started out at 4 p. m., ate dinner in a downtown cafe, and then went by the O'Neals' room to stop for what she was told would be only a few minutes. They started towards her home at 10 p. m. O'Neal drove past a road leading to her home, and later turned off onto another road. O'Neal stopped the car near the abandoned clay pit and then made advances, the girl charges. When she fought him off, Mrs. O'Neal began to beat her and tear her clothing.

The Constitution

The Sheriff said O'Neal admitted that all of the victim's story up to the time of reaching the hotel room was true, and he recalled his wife beating the young woman. O'Neal told Hambrick that all three had been drinking, but the girl denied that there had been any drinking.

Couple Is Held In Savannah Rape, Murder Case

Times-Dispatch

Richmond, Va.

Thurs. 11-21-46

34j

DETROIT, Nov. 20—(AP)—Homicide Inspector George Branton said today that a Detroit couple had been arrested on warrants charging their participation in the September murder of a Georgia woman, whose body was found in a lonely swamp near Savannah, Ga.

They were arrested in a rooming house here after Detectives Edward Morton, of the Georgia Bureau of Identification, and D. J. Counihan, of Chatham County (Savannah) police, traced them to Michigan and came here with the warrant.

Morton said that the warrant charges "murder," and that the couple have agreed to waive extradition.

Detroit police, however, said the pair has made no statements.

Morton said they are wanted in connection with the death of Miss Bertha Mehrtens, 38, whose body, wrapped in roofing paper, was found near her home in suburban Savannah September 1. She had been raped, beaten and strangled.

'Must Be Negro' Crime Theory Boomerangs

Defender Chicago, Ill.

Sat. 9-7-46

34j

SAVANNAH, Ga. — Following the one-track Southern crime theory that "it must have been a Negro," white mobs this week came close to lynching two more innocent men, one in this state and one in Mississippi.

The life of a non-existent Georgia Negro rapist was saved only by the ability of the slain white woman's family to identify a voice from the darkness as that of a white man.

The Mississippi mob willingly swallowed an obvious "fish" story of one of its local white women who had stayed out too late with one of her country friends, and went in search of any mythical Negro rapist they could find.

Lured From Home

According to reports, Bertha Mehrtens, 38-year-old Georgia white woman known as the "Good Samaritan" of Pin Point, was told by a man who called at her home about 4:30 a.m., Sunday morning to report that a neighbor, Jack Harper, 21, had been injured in an automobile accident down the road. Miss Mehrtens is said to have dressed and accompanied the man.

Several hours later she was found by villagers alongside an out-of-the-way road just out of town. She had been strangled, slashed, criminally assaulted, and was dying.

As she lay there an armed mob formed quickly, and murmuring "it must have been a nigger."

Suspicion of a phantom Negro attacker subsided only after a member of the Mehrtens household told mob leaders that the person who came to their home to get Miss Mehrtens was obviously white as revealed by the voice. Evidence pointed to a 24-year-old white laborer who lives near the Mehrtens.

The mob then turned its attention to the white youth, Pete Coleman. Officers, answering Coleman's call ran through a hail of fire to get the man and lodge him in the county jail. Coleman is said to have confessed the crime.

At Escatawpa, Miss., feeling was at fever pitch because a white girl, allegedly invented a story to blanket an embarrassing situation created when she and a young friend stayed out all night in the friend's truck.

Claims Attack

The girl claimed she had been attacked and her escort robbed by an armed Negro who had jumped on the running board and forced the man to drive into the woods.

Running true to form, local white citizens and the town peace officers accepted the apparent "dope" story and went white hot for the "black fiend." Bloodhounds could find no trail at the alleged scene and the story boomeranged. The situation remains in doubt, not in truth but in acceptance of truth.

7387

Rapist Says He Killed Degnan Girl

Courier Journal
Louisville Ky

Father of 3 Tells Of Kidnaping And Butchery

Wed 6-26-46

From Wire Dispatches.

Phoenix, Ariz., June 25.—A 42-year-old father with a record of morals and extortion offenses today told sheriff's deputies he kidnaped Suzanne Degnan, 6, in Chicago January 7 and dismembered her body after she had suffocated in gunny sack.

Richard Russell Thomas, now in jail awaiting sentence for unnatural sex acts against his 13-year-old daughter, called deputies to his cell and unfolded a story of hunting a house to burglarize because he was broke, entering the Degnan home with a pass key and abducting the girl.

6-26-46

Stuffed Victim Into Sack.

Deputy Sheriff Stanley Kimball said Thomas told him he first was going to use a ladder to enter the house, decided on the pass key instead, saw the girl, hurriedly scribbled ransom notes and grabbed her up. He went out through her father's room, carrying her in his arms.

She awakened, he said, as he walked down the street. He found a sack and stuffed her in it.

"I guess I must have suffocated her," Kimball said Thomas told him.

Thomas said that when he realized the girl was dead he threw the loaded sack down an open coal chute and followed it into an apartment-house basement.

6-26-46

Used Surgical Tools.

There he cut up her body, he said, with surgical instruments he had stolen from a St. Louis hospital and always carried with him in a satchel.

"I'm not really sure she was dead—maybe not, because the blood spattered all over as I slashed her up," Kimball quoted Thomas. Wednesday 6-26-46

Thomas said he then disposed of parts of the body in a sewer and the remainder in a junk yard under an old tub. He remembered leaving a pair of scissors in the apartment house basement and returning to get them.

Threw Satchel Into Lake.

He said he then went to the lake shore behind the Field Museum and threw his instrument satchel into Lake Michigan.

It was then about 4 a.m., he said. He walked around a while and went home to his wife and children at about 7 a.m.

He said he and his family left Chicago January 17.

Mrs. Margaret P. Thomas, his wife, a registered nurse, told deputies she knew nothing of her husband's asserted part in the Degnan case, but confirmed that they were in Chicago at the time.

Thomas said he left St. Louis in late December and arrived in Chicago December 27.

6-26-46

Gives Occupation As Musician.

He gave his occupation as a musician and said that at one time he was a singer on a radio station in St. Louis. For most of the past 19 years, however, he has worked as a male nurse.

Thomas was convicted Saturday of two counts of rape involving his daughter and is due to be sentenced Monday. Both the daughter and Mrs. Thomas testified against him. Another charge of unnatural sex acts, involving their 8-year-old son, was dropped. The Thomases have another daughter, 12.

(In Chicago, Chief of Detectives Walter Storms said investigation showed that Thomas had worked at a Chicago hospital just before the crime was committed.

(Storms said Thomas had twice been employed at the Woodlawn Hospital on the South Side as an undergraduate nurse. The last period of his employment, Storms said, was January 3 to 7.

6-26-46

Girl's Father Found.

The Degnan girl was taken from her room early the morning of January 7 and parts of her butchered body were found that evening in sewers and catch basins in the neighborhood of the girl's North Side home.

Suzanne's father, James, a $7,500-a-year O.P.A. executive, discovered the kidnaping about 7:30 a.m. when he went to waken Suzanne for school.

Degnan found a note reading: "Get $20,000 reddy and waite for word. Do not notify F.B.I. or police. Bills in 5's and 10's."

A battered ladder was found near the bedroom window.

Lincoln Pleads Guilty In Illinois Sex Case

New York N.Y.

James F. Lincoln, Jr., 30, son of a Cleveland industrialist, was sentenced to serve from one to 14 years in the Illinois Penitentiary after he pleaded guilty of shooting Carol Williams, nine-year-old farm girl, and beating her on the head with a hammer when she refused to submit to his advances.

Lincoln's wife, father, father-in-law and sister were in court when he abruptly abandoned his plea of innocent after the opening of his trial. Lloyd Heth, his attorney, said the decision to change came after study of reports on Lincoln's mental condition. Heth said his client was mentally ill, but not seriously enough to be committed to a hospital for criminally insane. Still pending is a charge of assault with intent to rape Darlene Wood, 10, the day before he attacked the Williams child.

Birmingham News

DEGNAN SLAYER? — William Heirens (above), 17-year-old Chicago student, is held in Chicago for questioning after State's Atty. William J. Tuohy said the youth's fingerprints tally to a certain extent with those found on the ransom note in the kidnap-slaying of 6-year-old Suzanne Degnan. (Associated Press wirephoto.)

'Shammed Delirium' Balks Investigators In Degnan Child Case

Birmingham News
Birmingham Ala
Sunday

Fingerprints, Medical Kit In Suspect's Room Suggested As Evidence

6-30-46

CHICAGO, June 29—(AP)—Investigators said they ran into a stone wall of "shammed delirium" Saturday in renewed efforts to question a University of Chicago student who State's Atty. William J. Tuohy said he believed was "the man" in the Suzanne Degnan kidnap-killing.

Tuohy added, however, that "as matters stand now, I have not yet deduced sufficient evidence to prove him guilty beyond all reasonable doubt."

The youth, husky, 17-year-old William Heirens, lay strapped to a bed in the Bridewell Hospital. He responded to questions about the case with blank stares or unintelligible mutterings.

Tuohy said he was "satisfied" on the basis of the investigation thus far that Heirens is "the man" and added his investigation had produced these findings:

1. That "nine points of similarity" had been established between the print of Heirens' left little finger and a fingerprint on the $20,000 Degnan ransom note and that veteran fingerprint experts were "convinced" on this basis that the same man made the two prints.

2. "That X-ray examinations showed Heirens did not suffer a skull fracture when a policeman struck him on the head with a flower pot when he resisted capture.

3. THAT POLICE HAD ESTABLISHED Heirens' fingerprints corresponded with those found last Oct. 5 in the Southside apartment of Lt. Evelyn Peterson, 26-year-old Army nurse, who was bound and assaulted by an intruder, and that Heirens has been "definitely linked" with several Chicago burglaries, some in the neighborhood of the Degnan home.

4. That a medical kit containing surgical instruments, including a detachable surgical knife and detachable surgical saw, were found in his dormitory room and that a two-bladed fisherman's knife was found between his mattress and the side of the bed. Sunday

Tuohy made the announcement of the fingerprints at 5:30 a.m. Saturday, after long but fruitless questioning of the youth which continued throughout the night and early morning. Heirens, who police physicians said suffered a "superficial" head injury during his capture, either ignored questions or repeated them in a parrot-like manner.

6-30-46

Even when Tuohy stood over his hospital bed and said: "We have compared your fingerprints with the Degnan note," Heirens remained impassive and silent.

"THE PRINTS ARE PRETTY MUCH alike," Tuohy said, but received no reply.

"We are convinced the fingerprint on the note is yours."

The youth stared at him blankly.

Then on a sudden inspiration, Chief of Detectives Walter Storms, who had accompanied Tuohy to the hospital, spoke to the youth in German.

6-30-46

Heirens blinked and looked up. "I don't know what they're holding me for," he said.

The 6-year-old Degnan girl was kidnaped and killed Jan. 7 in a manner that shocked the nation. Residents throughout the city were frightened, and the Degnan neighborhood was gripped by something akin to sheer terror. Some parents wouldn't let their children out alone, even in the daytime.

The kidnaper left a note demanding $20,000 ransom, but police found parts of the little girl's dismembered body in neighborhood sewers the same night.

Pushes Rape Charges Against White Newsman

The Whip
Miami, Florida

CHICAGO. (ANP)—Rape charges against a white newspaperman is being pushed here through the local branch of the NAACP.

Edward Boul, a reporter for the Hearst Herald-American, an afternoon daily, won a dismissal in Judge Joseph Hermes' Municipal Court last week on charges of raping Mrs. Lucille Allen on August 23. He was freed, despite the victim's positive identification and testimony plus the testimony of three other witnesses who saw the reporter leave the building at the time the attack occurred.

Ill.

Boul, flashing a gold badge and claiming to be a "G" man, forced his way into Mrs. Allen's westside apartment on pretense of searching for the killer of a white man, she charged. After making a search, the woman was ordered to get dressed to go downtown. She started dressing, she said, but Boule pulled a gun and forced her to submit to an attack, making the threat: Sat. 9-14-46

"If you tell anyone, I'll be back Monday to kill you."

Chief witnesses against the newsman was Miss Ruth Knight, Mrs. Allen's next-door neighbor, who was able to get the license number of the automobile he was driving. Her interest was aroused accidentally when the white man stayed so long in the lone woman's apartment, she remarked.

"In my opinion the judge was wrong in dismissing the charge against the defendant," commented first Assistant State's Attorney Wilbert F. Crowley in assuring NAACP President McGee he would personally see that this case is placed before the grand jury and an indictment asked for the rapist.

National Roundup:

Vet Says 'Desire To Strangle' Made Him Choke Girl

PM New York, N.Y.
Mon
12-30-46

A 21-year-old Army private, who said he had killed Germans with his bare hands and retained an "overwhelming desire to strangle," confessed at Champaign, Ill.,—police said—that he had raped and choked to death a pretty laundry worker whom he picked up in a tavern.

The killer was identified as PFC Maurice T. Garrett, son of a wealthy Akron family. He was traced by tavern customers who remembered seeing him late Saturday night with 20-year-old Helen Marie Cler, whose body was found early yesterday on her rooming house porch.

Youth, '21' Describes Tavern Date's Aftermath

Mon. 12-30-46

Champaign, Ill., Dec. 29 (U.P.)—A young Army private confessed today, authorities announced, that he raped and choked to death a 20-year-old laundry worker last night because of "an overwhelming desire to strangle."

The soldier, Pfc. Maurice T. Garrett, 21, who identified himself as the son of a wealthy

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Soldier Rapes Girl, 20, Then Strangles Her

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

"I felt an overwhelming desire to strangle her," Garrett reportedly told police. "She became unconscious and I raped her. She then started to struggle a bit and then I strangled her until I could no longer feel a pulse beat."

Then, he said, he returned to his barracks and went to sleep.

Girls, 8 and 14, Accuse School Principal, 61

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky. Thurs.

Chicago, Dec. 18 (UP)—Marx E. Holt, 61-year-old principal of a Chicago high school, was arraigned in Felony Court today on a statutory-rape charge involving two small girls, one 8, the other 14.

34j Ill.

A warrant for Holt's arrest was issued last week by Lake County, Ind., authorities at Hammond, on a complaint signed by Mrs. Grace Kapler, grandmother of one of the girls. Harold Wagner, Lake County deputy prosecutor, said the two girls told him that the alleged offenses occurred when Holt took them on an outing to Wolf Lake, Ind., last August. 12-19-46

Akron, Ohio, family, said he met the girl, Helen Marie Cler, while drinking beer at a tavern.

Escorted Her Home.

After the slaying, he told Army authorities and Police Lt. Gilbert Brown, he returned to his barracks at near-by Chanute Field and went to sleep. The youth was traced through persons who saw him with the girl and was arrested in his bed less than 7 hours after the crime.

Tavern customers said the youth, who claims European service, boasted while drinking that he had killed Germans with his "bare hands."

In his signed statement, he said he met Miss Cler at the tavern and talked with her about "five or six minutes."

"She consented for me to take her home," he said.

She Struggled a Bit.

Garrett said that after they had stepped onto the porch at her home—in a dark residential area about four blocks from the University of Illinois campus—he embraced the girl "a couple of times."

"This was about 11:30 p.m., he said. "I then felt an overwhelming desire to strangle her, which I did.

12-31-46

"She became unconscious and I raped her. She then started to struggle a bit and then I strangled her until I could no longer feel a pulse beat."

Private, Struck by Desire to Strangle, Chokes Girl to Death After Embraces

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Mem. 12-31-46

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Dec. 29—(UP)—A 21-year-old Army private, who said he killed Germans with his bare hands during the war and retained an "overwhelming desire to strangle," Sunday confessed that he had criminally assaulted and choked to death a pretty laundry worker whom he picked up in a tavern.

Sheriff Joseph Clancy said the soldier, Pfc. Maurice T. Garrett, son of a wealthy Akron, Ohio, family, had signed a statement admitting he choked to death 20-year-old Helen Marie Cler on the porch of her rooming house where he had taken her from the tavern.

Shortly after his confession he was charged in a warrant with first degree murder. Sheriff Clancy, who swore out the warrant, said that when the girl was found she still wore [illegible] clothing, including a coat, but that her dress and [illegible] torn.

Garrett told army authorities and police that after the slaying he returned to his barracks at nearby Chanute Field and went to sleep.

Tavern customers said the youth, who claims European service, boasted while drinking that he had killed Germans with his "bare hands."

In his signed statement, he said he met Miss Cler at the tavern and talked with her about "five or six minutes."

"She consented for me to take her home," he said. "We caught a bus in the heart of town and rode until she said we were near her home. Then we got off the bus and walked to her home a short distance away."

The crumpled body of the girl was found by a neighbor at 3:15 a. m. Sunday on the porch of the rooming house where she had been living since she came here from the home of her parents at nearby Philo, Ill.

Garrett said that after they had stepped onto the porch—in a dark residential area about four blocks from the University of Illinois campus—he embraced the girl "a couple of times."

"This was about 11:30 p. m.," he said. "I then felt an overwhelming desire to strangle her, which I did.

"She became unconscious and I assaulted her. She then started to struggle a bit and then I strangled her until I could no longer feel a pulse beat. The Constitution

"I then left the scene of the crime and returned to the bus station." The youth said he missed a bus back to Chanute Field because he fell asleep in the station.

"I caught the 3:15 (a. m.) bus and returned to the base where I went to bed about 4:30," he said. "At approximately 6 a. m. the Chanute Field provost marshal and military police apprehended me in my bed." Atlanta, Ga.

The youth said his father was Forrest Garrett, superintendent of an Akron dairy company.

The youth was seized after Sgt. William Oestreicher, Juneau, Wis., who also is stationed at Chanute Field, told authorities he had seen Garrett in the tavern with Miss Cler and that the two had left together. Oestreicher later saw Garrett alone at the bus station.

A pair of leather gloves, of the type worn by soldiers, was found under Miss Cler's body. Sheriff Clancy, who said the gloves had been identified as belonging to Garrett, also revealed that bloodstains had been found on Garrett's coat. Mem. 12-30-46

Under preliminary questioning, Garrett at first insisted that the stains came from a nosebleed he had several days ago. He also claimed he had accompanied Miss Cler from the tavern but had left her at a bus stop a block from her

34j 1946

Kentucky

7388

Man Quizzed In Assault On Young Girl

Wed. 7-31-46

Convict Is Sought In Attempted Rape

A 25-year-old man was questioned by police yesterday in the attempted rape of an 11-year-old girl in Highland Park Monday night.

City and County police have not abandoned search, however, for another suspect, Calvin Bruce Hudgins, 31, escaped Eddyville convict, who has been reported seen in the area. The child said a police photograph of Hudgins resembled the man who assaulted her on Crittenden Drive, about eight blocks from Highland Park, according to detectives.

34j

KW

The man taken into custody was held under $5,000 bond in Police Court on a vagrancy charge. He gave his address as "Highland Park."

Escaped From Eddyville.

Hudgins escaped from Eddyville two weeks ago and is sought for questioning in the rape of a 13-year-old girl at Kuttawa, Ky., a day following the escape. He [illegible] in 194[illegible] for dwellinghouse breaking.

The 11-year-old girl told police a man approached her while she was playing in Highland Park late Monday. He twisted her arm, she said, and forced her to accompany him along Crittenden Drive to the rear of the Optimist Club boys' club where he attempted to attack her.

The girl said he gave her a quarter and said: "I'm going to meet Margaret and leave town."

Found at Home.

She was found crying at her home by her mother, who had gone to look for her after she failed to come home with her younger brother.

Hudgins has been sought since a man who resembled him threatened a resident of the section with a shotgun several days ago. His divorced wife, Mrs. [illegible] Hudgins, lives on Fern Valley Road.

Woman Threatened And Raped By Intruder

The Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

A 26-year-old woman, unmarried and living alone on South Sixth, was raped early yesterday morning by a man who entered her room through a window and threatened her with death, she told police. The woman said her fingers were cut when she grabbed at a knife held by the intruder. She was treated at General Hospital. Thurs. 10-10-46

34j

Boy's Statement Solves Tritt Hanging Mystery

The Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Thurs. 10-31-46

Marvin Gray, 15, Relates How Victim Accidentally Fell to Death From Tree

The Ronnie Tritt hanging mystery two months ago in Audubon Park appeared solved yesterday when a playmate of the boy told authorities his death was an accident.

James Marvin Gray, 15, of 1119 Audubon Parkway, signed a formal statement telling how Ronnie, 14, fell from a tree with a rope tied around his neck last August 23. The body was found under a tree in a vacant lot next to 3118 Chickadee Road.

Commonwealth's Attorney Frank A. Ropke announced that he considered the case cleared up, the death accidental, and no further action would be taken. Youny Gray was freed immediately.

County Attorney Sam Steinfeld concurred.

400 Persons Questioned.

Ronnie, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Tritt, 3123 Teal, was found August 24 after a search when he failed to return home the night before. Questioning of more than 400 persons previously had failed to break the case.

Finally, Chief of County Police Thomas A. Dover said, a witness was found who could definitely identify the companion playing with Tritt the day of the tragedy. Gray was taken to County Police Headquarters yesterday to talk things over. His statement was the result of a long series of conferences.

"My name is James Marvin Gray," it said. "I am 15 years of age and I reside with my parents at 1119 Audubon Parkway, Jefferson County, Kentucky.

Placed Rope Around Neck.

"I knew Ronnie Tritt, lived in the same neighborhood with him. On the day the accident occured I was in the field right beside White's home, kicking a football. Ronnie came over and brought a clothesline with him. Ronnie tied knots in the clothesline and placed the clothesline around his neck and we climbed up into a tree.

"After we got into the tree Ronnie tied the clothesline to a limb of the tree. We sat in the tree playing for some time and I started to get down out of the tree. My back was turned to Ronnie and as I was attempting to climb down I heard a noise and I looked back and Ronnie had slipped or fallen from the limb.

"The rope which he had placed around his neck had broken. I climbed down out of the tree and was scared and excited and I ran home.

"I did not have anything to do with pushing him or shoving him out of the tree; it was purely accidental.

"Ronnie would often play by tying a rope around himself. He was a Boy Scout and knew how to tie a bowline knot. Ronnie was soon to become an Eagle in the Boy Scouts and knew how to tie these knots.

"I was a Boy Scout, but never got any higher than a Tenderfoot and I did not know how to tie bowline knots.

"Ronnie and I were the best of friends and we played together from time to time."

Colonel Dover said officers had been close to the solution several times in the past two months, but never were able to complete the job.

Reaction Was Natural.

"The boy's explanation that he was scared is natural," said Dover. "I have known men caught for hit-and-run driving to say they didn't know why they ran off. The boy was just scared to death. By clearing it up he has relieved himself of a great burden and us of an unsolved death."

At the time Ronnie's body was found a block from his home, it was believed by the authorities that he was the victim of an assault and slaying in a sex crime.

An autopsy by Coroner Roy L. Carter tended to confirm this view.

The investigation proceeded on this basis for some time. The Audubon Park area was deeply perturbed.

Step by step this theory fell. It developed that the rope around Ronnie's neck had broken, not been cut; that an injury ascribed to the assault was caused by a sharp piece of limb in the tree; that boys had played "hanging" games in the neighborhood.

County Detectives James Lacefield and Edward Schmidt had been assigned to the case since the beginning. They were joined by City Detectives Charles Troxell and John Meeks. The four and other officers had run down numerous leads that fizzled out until the break. County Judge Horace Barker, in on the finish, had arranged co-operation from the F.B.I. whose analyses provided some of the basis for putting the investigation on the track that finally led to a solution.

34j

KW

Rape Charge Against Officer Is Dismissed

The Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Fri. 11-1-46

Patrolman's Accuser Reneges On Complaint

Frankfort, Ky. Oct. 31 (AP)—For want of prosecution, a rape charge against Ray Barger, 32-year-old State highway patrolman, was dismissed in Franklin County Court today.

34j

The dismissal motion was made by William A. Young, County attorney, on request of Joseph Schmitt, attorney for Kathryn Funk, Louisville. Schmitt advised Young that Miss Funk did not desire to press proceedings.

A warrant was issued against Barger, Lexington, after he took H. M. Haynie, Louisville, Miss Funk's escort, before a magistrate here on a charge of being drunk on a public highway October 19. Haynie was fined $20, including costs.

Judge Says 'Frame-Up.'

In dismissing the warrant, Boone Hamilton, Franklin County judge, said Barger had been "mistreated" and was the victim of a "frame-up."

Marvin J. Sternberg, Barger's attorney, expressed anger at failure of Schmitt and Miss Funk to appear today. He told the court the State would "keep its records current" in the matter, continue to investigate, and perhaps take action against the woman later.

Barger was present today, accompanied by Patrol Director John Baker and Patrol Captains George Blaydes and Hayes Page.

Negro Youth Attack Victim

Defender 9-14-46

Chicago, Ill.

LOUISVILLE —(ANP)— Relating an attack that would have made top national headlines — if the races of the characters were reversed — a 14-year-old colored lad was assaulted by a white man here last week under circumstances similar to those connected with a previous sex-attack on a white youth.

The story of the unidentified Negro youth and nature of the injuries suffered by Ronnie Tritt—the white youth who was also hanged—indicate that both attacks were committed by a pervert, detectives declared last week.

The white man picked up the youth at a parking lot where the boy was employed to sell space. The man offered to park, but asked the youth to get in the car and show him where to direct it. When the boy accommodated the customer, he was driven "somewhere in the county," assaulted and later released, according to police. Sat. 9-14-46

34j

Man Is Arrested On Rape Charge

The Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Accused of raping a 22-year-old woman at 2:30 a.m. yesterday, Timothy R. Richey, 28, of 328 E. Breckinridge, was held without bond until tomorrow in Police Court.

The woman, who lives across the street from Richey, said he forced his way into her room. She said he had one arm in a sling. Wed. 9-11-46

Police said the woman identified Richey shortly after dawn when she saw him sitting in the window of his home. She was treated at General Hospital.

34j

Louisvillian Charges Rape By State Policeman

The Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Tues. 10-22-46

The Courier-Journal Frankfort Bureau.

Frankfort, Ky., Oct. 21.—Charged with rape, State Highway Patrolman Ray Barger today was arraigned before County Judge L. Boone Hamilton, who set his hearing for 11 a.m. Thursday. The charge against him was made in a warrant sworn to by a Louisville woman.

34j

Judge Hamilton fixed Barger's bail at $1,000 and paroled him to Col. John Baker, chief of the Highway Patrol. Barger, 32, lives in Lexington.

The offense is alleged to have occurred near Frankfort Saturday night after Barger arrested the woman's companion, H M. Haynie, Louisville, on a charge of drunkenness on a public highway. Haynie gave his business address as 1827 S. Seventh.

Car Towed to Frankfort.

According to Magistrate Fred Montgomery, before whom the patrolman brought Haynie for trial, the prisoner and his companion had been to the races at Keeneland, near Lexington. Returning, Haynie's motor burned out six miles east of Frankfort and stopped in the midst of heavy traffic on U. S. 60.

The highway patrolman ordered a wreckage to tow the crippled car to Frankfort, then brought Haynie and the woman to the magistrate's home in Belle Point, a suburb of Frankfort. He took Haynie inside, but left the woman in his patrol car outside.

The magistrate said Haynie refused to give his name, whereupon the patrolman returned to the car in an effort to get his name from the woman. The magistrate said Barger returned in about 45 minutes with the prisoner's name. It was in this time that the woman charges Barger drove her to a point in the country and committed the assault.

Haynie Fined $10 and Costs.

Magistrate Montgomery fined Haynie $10 and costs, the latter amounting to another $10. Haynie pleaded, the magistrate said, that he had lost heavily at the races.

Commonwealth's Attorney James P. Hanrahan and County Attorney William A. Young questioned the woman for more than an hour this morning in Judge Hamilton's office, and then for a few minutes questioned Haynie and the woman jointly. The woman said her lawyer is Joseph Schmitt, Louisville.

Colonel Baker said Barger suffered a physical collapse after the charge was filed against him and had to be sent home. He said Barger's record as a patrolman is spotless.

34j 1946

Louisiana

7389

Strangled To Death With Own Under Clothes

The Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans, La.
Sat. 12-7-46

2 White Boys Find Body in Vacant Lot

Criminally Attacked

Leaders Cite Need For Negro Police

34j La.

About 4 o'clock last Thursday evening, two white boys playing in a vacant square at Claiborne Ave., Story, Jefferson Ave. and Soniat St., came across the lifeless nude body of a colored woman. This ended a several-day old search for Mrs. Mary Rosamond Carter, 40, who had been missing from her home at 2612 Soniat St. since Nov. 19.

The finding of the body also chalked up one of the most brutal murders to have taken place in recent years, for the victim was found stripped and gagged with her underclothes. According to Dr. Richard L. Buck, assistant coroner, Mrs. Carter had been criminally attacked and strangled with pieces of her own clothing.

According to relatives, Mrs. Carter had just recently obtained a job in Metairie and was undoubtedly en route home from work. She left home dressed in a red sweater, brown skirt and reversible coat. She was also wearing a wrist watch and eye glasses.

Police reported finding the body propped against a small tree in the vacant lot and Mrs. Carter's overcoat folded lying near her and an empty pocketbook. Police failed to find any trace of the watch, glasses, sweater and skirt.

Police appear to be at a loss as for clues to Mrs, Carter's attackers, but apparently no large scale effort is being made to find any of Mrs. Carter's assailants. Daniel Byrd, executive secretary of the NAACP, pointed this out in a letter to Superintendent of Police Watters in view of the fact that over a hundred Negroes were arrested recently when a white woman was allegedly raped.

Negro citizens of the uptown residential section of the city, where Mrs. Carter was murdered, have become aroused over the laxity of the police department in attempting to find the guilty parties.

Because of a recent attempt by several white boys to attack a young Negro girl in the same neighborhood, many are of the opinion that the murder was committed by some of the same boys. Several Negro women in the past year or so have been molested by white boys while they were on their way from work.

34j

Other civic leaders voicing their sentiments, said that police protection for law abiding Negro citizens is practically nil. Some believe that now, more than ever Negro police should be appointed. As one leader stated, if they appoint Negro policemen at least we will be able to "legally protect ourselves."

34j 1946 7390 Massassachuetts

Ravished Body of Lost McGurk Girl Found Afloat in Cape Cod Reservoir

Atlanta, Ga. 8-2-46 Friday Constitution

ONSET, Mass., Aug. 1—(UP)—The ravished body of Ruth McGurk was found floating in a reservoir near this Cape Cod resort town Thursday, and police announced they would question a man arrested for drunken driving Saturday night shortly after the red-headed vacationist rode to her death from a dance hall.

34j

The 25-year-old Cambridge department store supervisor was "criminally attacked and murdered," Dist. Atty. Edmund R. Dewing said. Friday

Investigators expressed the opinion the slayer was a youthful jitterbug, known only as "Frank,"

in Heaven, Father," she told him. "She was such a good devout girl. I know now that she's safe. I have prayed day and night that God would send me word about her—one way or the other. Now my prayers have been answered."

34j

Since Sunday when she learned of her daughter's disappearance Mrs. McGurk had had but little sleep. Twice she made tearful radio appeals to the girl's abductor, begging for her safe and speedy return. Mass.

Twice, too, she had been annoyed by telephone calls from cranks, purporting to be the mysterious "Frank" with whom her daughter had left the dance hall. The callers had assured her the girl was safe.

34j

"I hope and pray that this awful news won't hurt my son, Francis," said Mrs. McGurk. "I'm worried about him. He's at the Cambridge Sanitarium and he's kept his radio turned on constantly for news of his 'baby sister'."

Finding of the girl's body ended a four-day search by land, sea and air. 8-2-46

On the basis of sketchy clues, police reconstructed the crime this way:

Miss McGurk left the dance hall Saturday night about 10:30 with the young man who had been her dancing partner.

The man apparently had an automobile and had suggested that they take a drive. It was a hot night. 8-2-46

From Onset, the couple probably drove northwest to the town of Wareham. They continued through South and West Wareham to the junction of the Cape Cod Highway and a road that leads to Boston through South Carver. It was here that the body was found.

The area around the reservoir is unpopulated. The expanse of scrub pine is broken only by the many cranberry bogs that dot the countryside. Often houses are as far as two miles apart.

Several bruises were evident on the girl's face and arms when her body was taken from a Cranberry Bog reservoir, about eight miles from the dance hall. 8-2-46

Some of her underclothing was missing. Her pink gabardine sport dress had been pulled up over her head, as had her white slip. Police tramped the woods surrounding the reservoir for some trace of the girl's shoes which also were missing. 8-2-46

Miss McGurk was identified through a wristwatch and a diamond engagement ring given her by her fiance, now serving as a Navy cook with the atom bomb fleet at Bikini. They were to have been married in the Fall.

The body was found by John E. Laine, a carpenter, who was driving by the reservoir on his way to work. Laine told police he noticed something floating about 15 feet from the shore, but did not stop his car immediately. A few moments later, recalling that the McGurk girl was missing, he drove back to the spot and took a second look. Then he telephoned police.

In Cambridge, Miss McGurk's widowed mother was heartbroken when authorities told her of finding the body. Soon after the tragic news was broken to her Mrs. McGurk was consoled by a parish priest, the Rev. Bernard Hattigan of St. Mary's (Catholic) Church.

Former Art Student Indicted For Murder

The Advertiser Montgomery, Ala. Sat. 8-31-46

PLYMOUTH, MASS., Aug. 30—(AP)—Charles R. Goodale, 25-year-old former art student, today was indicted by a Plymouth County grand jury on charges of murder in the rape-slaying of Ruth McGurk, 25, red-haired USO hostess.

34j

Climaxing a police investigation that stirred this Cape Cod Summer resort region, a 20-man jury returned an indictment after a two-day hearing on the month-old slaying, during which upwards of 20 of the Onset Summer colony testified. Sat. 8-31-46

Goodale, impassive and dapperly-dressed in an open shirt and sports coat, pleaded innnocent and was ordered held without bail.

The McGurk girl, a supervisor in a Cambridge dime-store, vanished on July 27 from an Onset dance hall on the first night of her vacation. Her ravished body was found five days later in a cranberry bog reservoir in Carver—about eight miles away.

Goodale, an Onset resident, told investigators that he attended the dance, but left with another girl he knew only as "Chum." He has appealed, without success, to this girl to "come forward."

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2 Held in Assault Of Smith College Girl

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Dec. 11—Two married veterans pleaded innocent in District Court today to charges of assault with intent to ravish a 21-year-old Smith College graduate who was beaten, stripped and apparently raped.

34j

Bail was set at $5,000 each for Stephen Antosz, 26, and Mendor McCormick, 24, both of nearby Leeds, Mass., who were seized at their homes yesterday several hours after Miss Louise Moore of Bronxville, N.Y., was thrown from a car on a lonely road. Thurs. 12-12-46

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2 Bound Over in Attack on Girl

Herald Tribune New York

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Dec. 11 (AP)—Louise Anne Moore, 21-year-old student sculptress, was reported making satisfactory recovery tonight as two young married men accused of attacking her were bound over in $5,000 bail for a hearing Dec. 18. She suffered facial and head injuries. Mendor McCormick, 25, a cutlery worker, and Stephen Antosz, 26, employed in a brush shop, pleaded innocent in District Court to charges of assault with intent to rape the attractive Smith College graduate from Bronxville, N. Y. 12-12-46

34j

Formal Murder Charge Placed Against Navy Vet in Girl's Death

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Tues. 8-20-46

ONSET, Mass., Aug. 19—(AP)—A long-delayed murder charge was lodged against Charles Russell Goodale Monday in the Ruth McGurk sex slaying and after pleading innocent the Onset Navy veteran was jailed without bail pending a hearing Sept. 5.

34j

Dist. Judge L. Francis Callan, Jr. set that date for hearing on the question of probable cause at the request of Defense Counsel Matthew King and with the approval of Dist. Atty. Edmund R. Dewing.

Even before the ravished body of the 25-year-old Cambridge vacationist was fished out of a Carver pond Aug. 1, Goodale, a 25-year-old artist and musician, had been listed by police as their No. 1 suspect. His re-arrest and re-arraignment marked a new phase in the three-week investigation of one of Cape Cod's strangest murder mysteries.

"That Charles Russell Goodale . . . did assault and beat Ruth McGurk with intent to murder, and by such assault and beating, did kill and murder her," read the complaint.

It was reported that the Government has at least 10 witnesses prepared to support its circumstantial case against the Navy veteran.

When originally arraigned Aug. 8, Goodale was charged with assault with intent to assault a Lowell student-nurse one week before the McGurk murder.

On that count he was held in $30,000 bail for hearing Aug. 29. However, he soon furnished the bond and was at liberty when rearrested in the McGurk case Saturday night.

Goodale acknowledges that he was at the Colonial Casino Dance hall here the night of July 27 when Miss McGurk disappeared from there with an unidentified man. However, he insists that the girl with whom he left the ballroom was a new acquaintance whose name he did not know—a girl who has failed to respond to his published appeals to come forward and support his alibi.

"I still have every confidence in this man's innocence," commented Defense Counsel King after Monday's arraignment.

His faith in Goodale was shared by the defendant's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Goodale, who were among the 75 spectators in court. Tues. 8-20-46

Still unruffled, Goodale was taken to the county jail at Plymouth to await further court action.

MISSING GIRL FOUND SLAIN ON CAPE COD

New York, N.Y. Fri 8-2-46

Cambridge Resident Raped, Body Found in Reservoir—Her Dance Partner Sought

Times

Special to The New York Times.

ONSET, Mass., Aug. 1—The battered body of Miss Ruth McGurk of Cambridge, Mass., was found floating today in a cranberry bog reservoir eight miles from the dance hall she left Saturday with a stranger known only as "Frank."

34j

The 25-year-old girl was raped and strangled, medical authorities reported to Edmund R. Dewing, District Attorney. Mr. Dewing said that the attack and slaying occurred at some spot other than the reservoir.

The meager description of the man with whom Miss McGurk left the Colonial Casino here about 10:30 o'clock Saturday night handicapped the police who conducted an intensive air and land search for the young woman.

$700 Ring Still on Hand

Still on her left hand was the $700 diamond engagement ring given her by her fiancee, Arthur Doucette of Haverhill, Mass., a sailor on the Pacific. She also wore another ring, containing a birthstone, on her right hand, a bracelet on her left arm and an expensive wrist watch on her right wrist.

Miss McGurk came here with two girl friends, Miss Ruth Jefferson and Miss Helen Leary. She was a supervisor in a Woolworth five and ten cents store.

They had walked together to the dance hall shortly after 8 o'clock. Miss McGurk danced with the stranger and left with him after telling her friends, "I'm going out with Frank. Wait up for me. I'll be home early." Fri 8-2-46

Youth in Tan Sport Coat

They described the man as being about 22 years old, 5 feet 8 inches in height and of medium complexion. He was dressed in a light tan sport coat and a white shirt with the collar open and turned over the coat collar.

The finding of the body came just a few hours after her mother issued a public appeal to the man named Frank:

"If you have killed my girl, please, in the name of God, tell me where you have left her."

Girl Reports Attack Attempt

Times New York, N.Y.

NEWTON, Mass., Aug. 1 (AP)—An attractive 21-year-old New York girl, giving the name of Ruth Hart, reported to police today that a blonde youth offered her a ride when she became stranded and attempted to attack her.

34j

Miss Hart, suffering bruises and her clothes torn, told police she came from New York by bus yesterday to visit friends in Brookline. They were not home, she said, and she was unable to get transportation to Boston.

The youth offered her a ride, she told police, and drove to the Oak Hill section of this city, where he attemted to rape her.

Baby Girl Kidnaped, Beaten And Attacked

The News Birmingham, Ala.

BOSTON, Oct. 4—(AP)—Police Sgt. Charles Hewitt said last night that a two-and-a-half-year-old baby girl was kidnaped in her carriage, stripped and beaten and that "an attempt was made to rape" her in a neighborhood hallway.

34j

The police sergeant said he pieced together this story after an investigation.

The baby, Albertina Du Fresne, was left in a carriage while a 14-year-old girl, who was minding the child, went inside for a library book.

Witnesses said a 10-year-old boy was seen wheeling the carriage away. Mass

While a search was underway, Navy Chief Petty Officer James Mason and his wife attempted to get into their home a few blocks away but found the door locked. Inside the hallway, they told Sgt. Hewitt, they could hear a child crying. Fri. 10-4-46

Mason said he broke the door down and found the child lying on the floor without clothing except for shoes.

Mason then called police, who took the child to City Hospital, where she was found to be suffering from multiple contusions on the face and body and, Sgt. Hewitt said, there also was evidence "that an attempt had been made to rape the child."

Ex-Sailor Is Charged With Murder

Times Dispatch Tues 8-20-46

ONSET, MASS., Aug. 19—(UP)—A long-delayed murder charge was lodged against Charles Russell Goodale today in the Ruth McGurk sex slaying and after pleading innocent the Onset Navy veteran

274

eran was jailed without bail pending a hearing September 5.

District Judge L. Francis Callan, Jr., set that date for hearing on the question of probable cause at the request of Defense Counsel Matthew King and with the approval of District Attorney Edmund R. Dewing.

Even before the ravished body of the 25-year-old Cambridge vacationist was fished out of a Carver pond August 1, Goodale, a 25-year-old artist and musician, had been listed by police as their No. 1 suspect. His rearrest and rearraignment marked a new phase in the three-week investigation of one of Cape Cod's strangest murder mysteries. Tues 8-20-46

"That Charles Russell Goodale did assault and beat Ruth McGurk with intent to murder, and by such assault and beating, did kill and murder her," read the complaint.

Ten Witnesses to Support

It was reported that the government has at least 10 witnesses prepared to support its circumstantial case against the Navy veteran.

When originally arraigned August 8, Goodale was charged with assault with intent to rape a Lowell student-nurse one week before the McGurk murder.

On that count he was held in $30,000 bail for hearing August 29. However, he soon furnished the bond and was at liberty when rearrested in the McGurk case Saturday night.

Goodale acknowledges that he was at the Colonial Casino dance hall here the night of July 27 when Miss McGurk disappeared from there with an unidentified man. However, he insists that the girl with whom he left the ballroom was a new acquaintance whose name he did not know—a girl who has failed to respond to his published appeals to come forward and support his alibi.

"I still have every confidence in this man's innocence," commented Defense Counsel King after today's arraignment.

His faith in Goodale was shared by the defendant's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Goodale, who were among the 75 spectators in court.

Tues 8-20-46

Still unruffled, Goodale was taken to the county jail at Plymouth to await further court action.

Student Sculptress Beaten, Attacked

The News

Birmingham, Ala.

34

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Dec. 10—(AP)—A 21-year-old New York sculptress was brutally beaten and—police said—criminally attacked early today by two young men in a lonely section near Smith College.

Tues, 12-10-46

Police Chief George J. Bernier identified the girl as Louise Anne Moore of Beechtree Lane, Bronxville, N. Y., a graduate of Smith College last June.

She has been studying under Randolph Johnston, nationally known sculptor at North Deerfield.

Suffering head and face injuries and blackened eyes, the girl lapsed into semi-consciousness after giving investigators an incoherent account of the attack.

Chief Bernier said she told him she attended a lecture at Smith College last evening, and later accepted an automobile ride from two men to South Deerfield, about 12 miles from Northampton.

On the way, Bernier said, they stopped at a dine and dance place and "had something to drink." After they started out again, Bernier quoted the girl as saying, the men drove off the main highway and she "remembered nothing further."

34j

Michigan

7391

Girl Kidnaped, Attacked, Tells Of Auto Trip

The Chronicle
Detroit, Mich.
Sat. 10-19-46

A 10-year-old girl is back home today after a harrowing experience with an unidentified white man whom she charges kidnaped her, took her to New Haven and criminally attacked her.

347

According to the girl, whose name is withheld because of the nature of the case, she was walking near the corner of Marston and Oakland, Monday at 2 p.m. when the man, riding in a Chevrolet car forced her to get in. She says that she was on her way to her aunt's house on Marston.

Walks 2 Miles

The girl, who was brought back to Detroit by Detroit policewomen, disclosed that after the attack, she hid in the woods and then walked two miles to a white woman's house and persuaded her to call the police.

She said the man was medium size, about 30 years of age.

7393

Three Men Charged in Attempt To Rape Minister's Daughters

Times-Dispatch Richmond, Va.

Thurs 8-22-46

34j

COLLINS, Miss., Aug. 21—(AP)—Three young white men are held here after a harmless exchange of gunfire which grew out of a reported attempt to rape two daughters of a Negro preacher.

The shooting took place within 25 miles of Sullivan's Hollow, where 15 Negroes were rounded up by a posse early this week because four white men were wounded.

Sheriff John Sanford said that the white youths, Oscar Moore, 18, of Jefferson Davis County, and two brothers-in-law, Ernest Earl McDonald, Jr., 20, and Clyde Sellers, 24, of Collins, are charged with "attempt at the point of firearms."

The men are being held pending a hearing tomorrow before Justice of the Peace T. C. Cambell, who issued the warrants on affidavits sworn to by the girls.

Father Away

District Attorney O. O. Weathersby, of Taylorsville, said that the alleged attempted attack occurred last Friday night while the girls' father, Rev. Estes Barnes, a Baptist minister, was away on a preaching assignment.

He said the girls reported that they were at home at the time with their 40-year-old aunt when the white boys knocked on the door and claimed to be officers.

Weathersby said the Negro girls, 18 and 20 years old, respectively, reported that they went in different directions with McDonald and Moore, while Sellers remained at the house. Thurs 8-22-46

About seven or eight minutes later, the girls said, the father arrived, and screams were heard.

Weathersby said the father then opened fire with a shotgun and the white men, in return, fired "into the air" and left.

The sheriff said he had not questioned the men, pending their hearing tomorrow.

34j

Hollow, where fifteen Negroes were rounded up by a posse because four white men were wounded. Tension over that incident eased yesterday when the last two of the fifteen Negroes surrendered.

Sheriff John Sanford said that the three arrested white men, Osca Moore, 18, of Jefferson Davis County, and two brothers-in-law, Ernest E. McDonald Jr., 20, and Clyde Sellers, 24, of Collins, were charged with "attempt at the point of firearms."

The men will get a hearing tomorrow before T. C. Campbell, justice of the peace, who issued the warrants on affidavits sworn to by the girls. Thurs. 8-22-46

O. O. Weathersby, the District Attorney, asserted that the alleged attempted attack occurred Friday night while the girls' father, the Rev. Estes Barnes, a Baptist minister, was away on a preaching assignment.

He said the girls reported that they were at home at the time with their 40-year-old aunt when the white men knocked on the door and said that they were officers.

The Negro girls, 18 and 20 years old, respectively, said that they went in different directions with McDonald and Moore, while Sellers remained at the house.

About seven or eight minutes later, the girls added, the father arrived and screams were heard.

Mr. Weathersby said that the father opened fire with a shotgun and the white men in return fired "into the air," then left.

MISSISSIPPI HOLDS THREE IN ATTACK

Amst News New York, N.Y.

White Men Accused in Attempt to Rape 2 Negro Girls—

Thur. 8-23-46

COLLINS, Miss., Aug. 21 (AP)—Three young white men were held here today after an exchange of gunfire which grew out of a reported attempt to assault two daughters of a Negro preacher.

The shooting occurred within twenty-five miles of Sullivan's

34j

White Youths Fined $10 For Attempted Assault on 2 Girls

Tribune Washington, D.C.

Sat 8-31-46

34j

Collins, Miss. (NNPA).—Two white youths charged with attempting to assault two colored girls, and a third accused of pointing a weapon, pleaded guilty to lesser charges and were fined $10 and cost each, court records here disclosed last Thursday.

The case was heard late Wednesday by T. C. Campbell, justice of the peace. O. O. Weathersby, district attorney, said that the girls asked the original complaints be withdrawn so that charges of "creating a family disturbance" could be substituted.

The defendants were Ernest E. McDonald and Jadell Moore, originally charged with attempted assault, and Clyde Sellers, earlier charged with pointing a gun.

Withdrawal of the charges "does not mean this is the end of the case," Mr. Weathersby said. "I am going to investigate and if I find the original charges were well founded, I will call the matter to the attention of the grand jury." Sat 8-31-46

The three white men were held last Wednesday after an exchange of gunfire which grew out of the alleged attempt to assault two daughters of a colored minister.

Mr. Weathersby stated that the alleged attempted attack occurred Aug. 16 while the girls' father, the Rev. Estes Barnes, a Baptist minister, was away on a preaching assignment.

He said the girls reported that they were at home with their 40-year-old aunt when the white youths knocked on the door and said that they were officers.

The girls, 18 and 20 years old, respectively, said they went in different directions with McDonald and Moore, while Sellers remained in the house.

34j

About seven or eight minutes later, the girls added, the father arrived and screams were heard.

Mr. Weathersby said that the father opened fire with a shotgun and the white men in return fired into the air, then left.

Woman Escapes Sex-Slavery On Mississippi Plantation

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

By JOHN E. ROUSSEAU JR.

ROXIE, Miss.—The chivalrous South's famous protection to "Southern womanhood" does not apply to Negro women it was emphasized last week, when forced cohabitation and slavery, allegedly imposed on the 19-year-old wife of a Negro soldier by a white man was revealed here by NAACP officials.

34j

The alleged victim of what was termed by NAACP Executive Secretary Daniel E. Byrd as "a peonage plot," was Mrs. Edna Mae Cole Burnette, wife of Pvt. George E. Burnette, now stationed at the General Hospital, Augusta, Ga. Forced to serve as housekeeper and provide sexual intercourse for George Eames two or three times per week for a period of 15 months, Mrs. Burnette recently escaped from the white man's farm in Roxie and found refuge in New Orleans.

In an interview by NAACP officials, the young woman related that she and her soldier husband rented a two-room house from Eames, who employed her as cook and housekeeper while her husband worked on a log truck for a neighbor, Henry Smith, and did odd jobs around Eames' plantation store. But when her husband returned to the army Eames claimed that they owed him $67 and that she must continue to work for him to pay off the debt.

"He forced me to work from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day and did not pay me," Mrs. Burnette said. And when she refused to submit to him for the bill we owed him, "he beat me, locked the doors and assaulted me and told me if I ever tried to run away he would kill me."

Examined by women employees of the local NAACP offices, Mrs. Burnette was found to be covered with bruises about her thighs and body. Each time she tried to escape she was caught and beaten.

With all attempts to escape foiled by the plantation owner, Eames assumed that his "slave" had learned her lesson and granted her a short visit to her husband's people in Florida but kept her personal belongings and allotment money

Instead of going to Florida, Mrs. Burnette went to New Orleans.

WHITES ATTACK NEGRO WOMEN: FINED $10

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-31-46

34j

COLLINS, Miss.—(NNPA)—An assault on "Southern Womanhood" became just another misdemeanor here last week when the women were Negro and the attackers white.

The defendants, Ernest E. McDonald and Jadell Moore, originally charged with attempted assault of two colored girls, ages 18 and 20, and Clyde Sellers, earlier charged with pointing a gun, pleaded guilty to lesser charges and were fined a mere $10 and cost.

According to O. O. Weathersby, district attorney, the attempted attack occurred Aug. 16 while the girls' father, the Rev. Estes Barnes, a Baptist minister, was away preaching. The district attorney said the girls reportedly were at home at the time with their 40-year-old aunt when the white men came, posing as officers.

The two girls went in different directions with McDonald and Moore while Sellers remained in the house. When the girls' father arrived nearly seven minutes later, he heard the girls' screams.

Weathersby said that the father opened fire with a shotgun and the white men returned the fire, shooting into the air and left.

This typical miscarriage of justice was heard late last Wednesday by Justice of the Peace T. C. Campbell and it is reported that the frightened girls asked that the original complaints be withdrawn so that charges of "creating a family disturbance" could be substituted.

34j 1946 Missouri

7392

Minister Gets 5 Years For Intimacies With Girl

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 20 (U.P.)—George Russell Payne, a married, mild-mannered, 45-year-old preacher who wasconvicted of indulging in intimacies with a 16-year-old girl, today was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

34j Sep 21-46

Alternately wiping his eyes and brushing at his shaggy mustache, the part-time minister at a Kansas City, Kan., Church of God, stood with his head bowed as Federal Judge Albert L. Reeves addressed the maximum penalty under the Mann Act. Payne still faces rape charges.

Blonde Accuses Famous Surgeon Of Attempted Rape

Post

Freehold, ~~N. J.~~, June 18 (U.P.).—A slender, attractive blonde, who said she went to a doctor to have her knee treated, testified today that the physician, a nationally-known surgeon, assaulted and attempted to rape her as she lay on a table in his office.

34j

Mrs. Lucille Neale, 29-year-old wife of a civil engineer, made her charges against middle-aged Dr. Lyman Weeks Cressman, of Red Bank, N. J., and New York's City Hospital.

"Why didn't you cry out?" defense counsel asked.

"I was stunned. I was speechless," she answered.

Brothers Admit Kidnaping, Rape

PM New York, N.Y.

Wed. 11-6-46

34j

An armed posse of police and irate citizens of Woodbury, ~~N. J.~~, seized two brothers after an all-out search and stood aghast as the pair very calmly admitted abducting three young girls and raping the eldest, 15. Curly-haired Albert Palmer, 25, a farmhand, and his brother, Nelson, 21, admitted several robberies and Albert confessed to several other rape cases.

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7 Men Arrested In Kidnap-Rape In New Jersey

The Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Fri. 10-18-46

Trenton, ~~N. J.~~, Oct. 17 (AP)—State Police ~~here~~ reported today that seven men had been arrested, charged with kidnaping and raping three girls, and that four others were being sought.

34j

The police said the girls were seized last night in Trenton and taken to Bordentown in near-by Burlington County, where, they said, they were "brutally beaten, raped, and robbed."

State Police said the girls were all from "good families" and were 24, 22, and 20 years old. They said the men, who were in three cars, accosted the girls outside the Trenton Y.W.C.A.

Cabbie Sought For Robbing Two Women

PM New York, N.Y.

Mon. 12-23-46

34j

N.Y.

Police are scouring the city today for a cab driver suspected of having held up two women fares within a week with a straight-edged razor, threatened them with rape and made away with their money.

The second victim, Mrs. Lucille Brotherson, 35, of 903 Summit Ave., the Bronx, fell afoul the man yesterday morning at 6:45 when she hailed a taxi at 100th St. and Broadway and directed him to her home. At 154th and the Harlem River underpass, the driver stopped, entered the rear compartment and threatened Mrs. Brotherson with his razor. She resisted his advances, struggled free, and stumbled to the street. The driver stole her purse, containing $20, and drove off.

Detectives of the 135th St. station obtained descriptions of the hackie and his yellow vehicle and said they fitted those given them by Pearl Faighes, 23, of 1064 Nelson Ave., the Bronx, after she was held up last Tuesday.

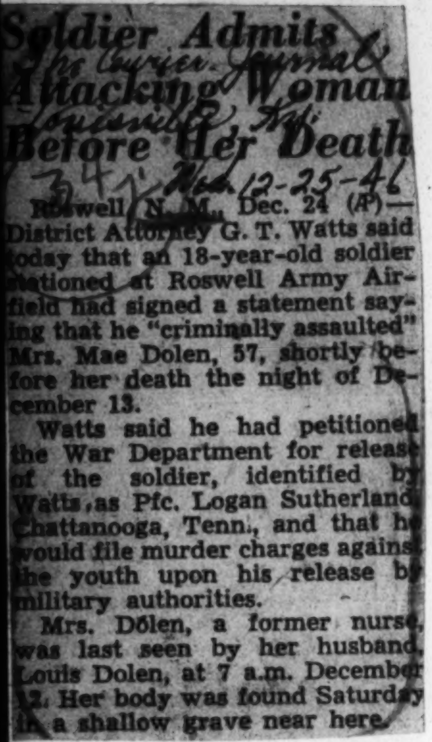
Miss Faighes was robbed of $11 when the driver of the cab she hailed at 107th St. and Broadway at 11:25 that night drove her to 155th St. and MacCombs Ave. bridge. There, she said, he climbed into the rear of the car and brandished the razor at her. She struggled and broke away from him.

Detectives at that time said the license numbers Miss Faighes reported corresponded with those of a cab stolen the day before in the Times Square district.

34j 1946

New Mexico

7395



Soldier Admits Attacking Woman Before Her Death

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.
34j Wed 12-25-46

Roswell, N. M., Dec. 24 (AP)—District Attorney G. T. Watts said today that an 18-year-old soldier stationed at Roswell Army Airfield had signed a statement saying that he "criminally assaulted" Mrs. Mae Dolen, 57, shortly before her death the night of December 13.

Watts said he had petitioned the War Department for release of the soldier, identified by Watts as Pfc. Logan Sutherland, Chattanooga, Tenn., and that he would file murder charges against the youth upon his release by military authorities.

Mrs. Dolen, a former nurse, was last seen by her husband, Louis Dolen, at 7 a.m. December 12. Her body was found Saturday in a shallow grave near here.

Central Pk. Rape Case Goes To Grand Jury Soon--D. A.

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Wednesday 6-26-46

34j

The Central Park rape of Yvonne Kenny, young Negro woman, and the murder of Jack Hylands, her white escort, will go to the New York Grand Jury either next week or the following week, the district attorney's office revealed yesterday.

Both Queens and New York County DA offices indicated, however, that the possibilities were that these men may never be punished specifically for these crimes. The Queens court is preparing to prosecute the three guilty men, Edward Roberski, 22; Edward Kankoska, 21, and Henry Sucko, 24, on a first-degree felony charge for a hold-up murder in Queens.

The following questions were answered by James O'Leary on behalf of the New York District Attorney's office:

Q. With regard to the Central Park rape-murder case, does the N. Y. DA's office contemplate pressing this charge?

A. We will indict and present evidence to the Grand Jury. You must remember that these men are up for two separate crimes. As for prosecution on this count, we must wait until the Queens Grand Jury finishes.

Q. Does this mean they will never be tried for this charge? What can the N. Y. DA's office do about this?

A. Doubtless we will present our evidence to the N. Y. Grand Jury this week, make arraignments then in New York on this aspect of the case. 6-26-46

Q. Is it definite that such indictments will be presented?

A. That's a matter of arranging the Grand Jury calendar. I don't know about this. However, if the first degree murder charge is found in Queens; this charge may never come up, unless the men are acquitted.

Q. Is there any way that the N. Y. DA's office can present this evidence to the Queens Grand Jury?

A. No, the N. Y. Grand Jury has jurisdiction only over N. Y. and Queens over Queens. If the N. Y. Grand Jury returns an indictment, most likely warrants will be lodged with custodians of the defendants until such time as they are surrendered to the N. Y. court's jurisdiction. But they may never have an opportunity to do so if the men are electrocuted.

Yesterday, the Daily Worker exposed the question mark in the Park rape case which shocked New Yorkers, namely, that 18-year-old Yvonne Kenny is a young Negro woman. Legally, it now appears questionable whether she will ever receive justice for the crime committed against her. But exposure of the real facts as a service to the people of New York was only done by the Daily Worker.

Civil Rights Group Asks Trial of Rapist

The Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

34j

We have sent the following letter to Mr. Miles McDonald, Kings County District Attorney:

The membership of the Flatbush Chapter of the Civil Rights Congress and the people in this community are aroused and indignant over the failure of your office to fully prosecute the defendant in the case of the people of the State of New York against Angelo Raso. Tues. 9-24-46

Raso, charged with raping an eleven year old Negro girl, was released on $5,000 bail. On two occasions, he failed to appear in court to stand trial. Despite this fact, his bail war reduced to $2,500. When he failed to appear in court yesterday, he was observed conducting business in the very apartment house in which it is charged, he criminally assaulted the child.

The State's witnesses have already lost two days' work and wages. Even though they can ill-afford to lose any more time they are determined that justice shall prevail and are ready and willing to appear in court and testify when called. Tues. 9-24-46

Anything less than a vigorous prosecution of Raso will encourage him and his kind and create a serious menace to all of the children in this community. The people will know where to lay the blame for any tragic consequences resulting from the failure of your

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Cop Cleared of Rape Charge By Jury in 20 Minutes

P.M. New York, N.Y.

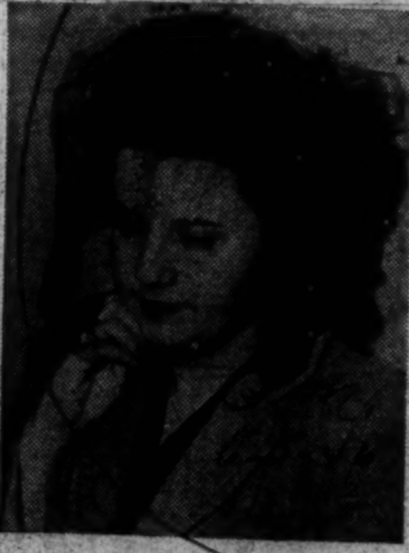
Wednesday 6-5-46

34j

It took an all-male jury only 20 minutes in Queens County Court yesterday to find Patrolman Andrew Hetzel, a father of three, not guilty of raping and assaulting Catherine Fieseler, the girl he drove home from the letter carriers' ball in Elmhurst on May 11. N.Y.

The jurors reached their decision after hearing Hetzel stoutly deny the charge and withstand a withering cross-examination. Earlier in the day they and the two women alternate jurors had inspected, outside court, the defendant's dilapidated 1931 Chrysler sedan. The defense contended it would be impossible to commit rape in the front seat of such cramped quarters.

Miss Fieseler, who was in court with her mother, paled when she heard the foreman announce the acquittal at 5:10 p.m. She left without comment. Not so the policeman's wife. She sprang forward, threw her arms about his neck, kissed him and cried out: "Oh darling, I'm so happy it's over." Hetzel looked just as relieved, though he still faces departmental charges of conduct unbecoming an officer. Pending that trial, he will remain under suspension. 6-5-46



Catherine Fieseler
No comment as . . .

Andrew Hetzel
. . . He's cleared.

Man Is Killed In Attempt To Save Girl

Three Rapists Beat Victim to Death

Times-Dispatch Richmond, Va.

34j

NEW YORK, June 8—(AP)—Three men beat to death a young jewelry clerk in the predawn shadows of Central Park today as he vainly sought to protect his 18-year-old high school girl companion from rape. Sun. 6-9-46

The couple had been to a YWCA dance and was strolling along a tree-lined path paralleling Fifth Avenue when the unidentified prowlers stepped out of the darkness.

Assistant District Attorney Louis A. Pagnucco described the crime as "one of the most vicious and atrocious we have had in a long time."

Authorities told this story:

Jack Hylands, 20, and Yvonne Kenny, a Washington Irving High School student, left the dance shortly before midnight and took a bus uptown where, after having a soda, they entered the park.

While walking along a path near her home, the men pounced out from a clump of bushes and seized the girl. Sun. 6-9-46

Hylands started punching, but one of the men slugged him with a blunt instrument and he slumped to the ground. The men rifled his pockets of a few dollars then dragged the girl into the shrubbery, attacked her, and fled.

Bruised and bleeding, the girl staggered to Mount Sinai Hospital and sobbed out her story. Hyland was found unconscious and he died shortly after at the hospital.

Civil Group Seeks Justice for Girl

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

34j

NEW YORK—Full scale pressure for prosecution of a white man charged with criminally assaulting an 11-year-old colored girl in the Brooklyn Flatbush area at the point of an ice-pick, is being sought by the Civil Rights Congress which has taken up the case.

The defendant, Angelo, Raso, 54, waived examination in Brooklyn Felony Court last Tuesday and was held for the grand jury first under $5,000 and then under $2,500 bail. The victim is the daughter of working people.

The Child's Story

According to the girl' story, the defendant attacked her on three different occasions, threatening her with an ice pick if she made an outcry, or if she told. The attacks occurred during the morning hours when she was alone.

Brooklynites aroused because Raso's bail was reduced have organized community leaders to prosecute. Jack Sartisky, a Civil Rights official, pointed out that, in recent cases in New York white men who have attacked colored girls have not been prosecuted. Sat. 9-28-46

PM New York, N.Y. Sun. 10-13-46

He's the man, Mrs. Thelma Breen, 24-year-old pregnant mother of two, told detectives. She identified Robert Puschman, 24, as the one who had attacked her, slashing and burning her when she resisted his advances. Chicago Police Capt. H. Burns says he has a confession. m17

7397

3 Park Murder-Rapists In Queen's Murder Trial

Amsterdam ~~New York Ny~~

Sat 6-29-46

Manhattan Courts may never have a chance to try the three murderer-rapists who assaulted 18-year-old Yvonne Kenny and killed her escort, 20-year-old Jack Hylands in Central Park on June 8. Queens County courts are going to have the first chance at sending the trio to the electric chair for the slaying of Navy Veteran Antonio Marchisella, 24, just a few hours after they had bludgened the Air Forces veteran to death and attacked his girl friend.

34j

Captured by Patrolman Roger Horan, the killers, Edward Koberski, 22, Edward Kahkoska, 21 and Henry Suchow, 42, were trapped by a British made gun that investigation showed belonged to one of them. Awakened from their beds in their Astoria residences late Thursday night, the men admitted to both murders and the rape, police stated. Miss Kenny, a Washington Irving high school student, tenatively identified the hoodlums as the rapers pending a more positive confirmation later.

Amsterdam News

Miss Kenny and her friend, Hylands, were walking through Central Park on June 8, just before going home after a YWCA dance nearby. At about midnight they were attacked by the men who left Hylands to die and dragged Miss Kenny off into the bushes. She collapsed in Mt. Sinai Hospital a short while later after telling her story. 6-29-46

Patrolman Horan was commended by Magistrate Roland Sala who arraigned the men in Ridgewood Felony Court Friday morning. Horan also received a medal and boost in rank from Mayor O'Dwyer.

Chief Assistant District Attorney Joseph Loscalzo said he will do everything possible to send the men to the chair for the Astoria crime even though Manhattan officials are anxious to get their hands on the killers.

6-29-46

34j

THREE SUSPECTS: army vets, who confessed to the killing of Jack Hylands and the rape of his girl friend, Yvonne Kenny, as well as the Astoria murder of Antonio Marchisella just a few hours later on June 8, stand waiting as they prepare to face trial for their lives. Left to right: Edward Keverski, Edward Kalikanoska and Henry Suckow.

Cigaret Case Clue in Rape

P.M.

34j

A missing gold cigaret case bearing the engraved name of the victim is the chief clue which more than 50 detectives are working on today in an effort to solve the murder of Jocelyn Hylands, 20-year-old war veteran, who was slugged to death early Saturday in Central Park fighting in vain to protect his girl friend from being raped.

Hylands, who lived at 519 Madison Ave. and worked as a receptionist in a Park Ave. jewelry shop, was escorting Yvonne Kenny, 18-year-old student in Washington Irving High School, home from a dance in the YWCA at 53d St. and Lexington Ave. They had a soda, and abuot 2 a.m. were strolling on the east walk of the park, paralleling Fifth Ave., at about 97th St. Three young men sprang from the underbrush, beat Hylands to death, assaulted Miss Kenny and left her unconscious. She staggered to Mount Sinai Hospital when she came to. Mon. 6-10-46

Miss Kenny attempted in vain to identify Rogues Gallery photos, and yesterday she inspected four youthful trios whom police picked up about town. She could identify none. The girl told police that Hylands had at least $14 and the cigaret case, but neither the cash nor the case was on his body. Police immediately began searching the city's pawnshops and second-hand stores. The case bore the imprint of a canceled postage stamp on one side and a replica of the flaps of an envelop on the other. New York

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Youth Killed Trying To Save Girl Friend

News Birmingham Alabama

NEW YORK, June — —A 20-year-old youth was killed early today following a fierce but futile fight in Central Park with three men to save his 18-year-old girl friend from rape, police reported.

The youth was identified as Jack Hyland. The girl identified by police as Yvonne Kenny, was reported to be in serious condition at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Police said the girl told this story: 6-8-46

She and Hyland were walking along the east walk of the park between 97th and 98th Streets, near her home, when the men approached and seized her. When Hyland, fists swinging, came to her aid, the men turned on him and beat him. Then they raped her and fled.

Police said the girl then staggered to the hospital and told authorities about the attack. Hyland was found lying on the walk and died shortly after being taken to the hospital. Sat.

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full

EX-SOLDIER KILLED, GIRL RAPED IN PARK

3 Thugs Beat to Death Youth Who Attempts to Protect High School Senior, 18

N.Y. Times

A 20-year-old former soldier in the United States Army Air Forces was beaten to death early yesterday morning in Central Park when he attempted to protect his 18-year-old high-school girl companion from an attack in which she was raped by two of three unidentified hoodlums.

Despite an intensive search by fifty detectives that began at 3 A. M. the men are still at large. The three thugs, one of whom was armed with a revolver, also stole $14 and some change from the pockets of the former soldier, who was identified as Jack Hylands of 519 Madison Avenue, near Sixty-first Street. 6-9-46

34j

The police expressed concern over the fact that the warm weather attracts hundreds of persons to the park after midnight. They again pointed out that a Park Department regulation forbids any loitering in the park from midnight until dawn. N.Y.

Last night thirty-five additional patrolmen were assigned to special duty in the park, augmenting the regular detail of the Arsenal Police Station. It was learned at Police Headquarters that during the summer extra details of twenty-five men in plainclothes patrol the park in unmarked cars. These plainclothes men are specifically ordered to be especially on the alert for prowlers. 6-9-46

Had Attended Y.W.C.A. Dance

Mr. Hylands, the police said, had been employed for the last four and one-half months as a receptionist by Edmond Frisch, a jeweler at 336 Park Avenue.

The girl, a senior in high school, told the police that she and her companion had attended a dance at the Young Women's Christian Association at Fifty-third Street and Lexington Avenue on Friday evening. They departed shortly before midnight and took a Lexington Avenue bus uptown. They stopped for a soda. The girl said Mr. Hylands changed a $5 bill. He also had a $10 bill in his pocket.

They entered the park at Ninety-seventh Street and Fifth Avenue. The pathway runs parallel with Fifth Avenue to Ninety-ninth Street. They sat down on a bench about 150 feet south of the Ninety-ninth Street entrance. The time, she said, was about 12:30 A. M.

She said they had been sitting there about five minutes when the trio suddenly appeared. Without warning, one grabbed the girl while the others attacked her companion. She told the police that Mr. Hylands fell to the ground. Two of the men criminally assaulted her.

After the attack, the girl lapsed into unconsciousness and it was about 2:45 A. M. that she staggered into Mount Sinai Hospital on 100th Street, between Fifth and Madison Avenues. Distraught and hysterical, she first told the story to hospital authorities, who summoned the police. Mr. Hylands was taken unconscious to the hospital, where he died about 4 A. M. 6-9-46

An autopsy at Bellevue Hospital disclosed that death was caused by a fractured skull and multiple lacerations of the body. The fractured skull was caused by a blunt instrument.

The girl also told the police that after the attack, one of the three hoodlums brandished a revolver and warned her against making any outcry. She described the three as light-complexioned and well-dressed. The police explained that the girl was handicapped in her description because of the darkness of the area.

Assistant District Attorney Louis A. Pagucco described the attack and murder as "one of the most vicious and atrocious crimes we have had in a long time." The youth, he said, had resided in a two-room apartment with his mother, a native of France, until about a month ago when his mother returned to France. The rent for the apartment, it was disclosed, was $75 a month. The girl is one of several children and her father is an electrician.

Three suspects who were picked

up for a burglary early in the morning were not her assailants, the police said. The girl spent several hours at Police Headquarters looking over hundreds of photographs in the rogues' gallery. The police said that the girl had known Mr. Hylands for some time and was a member of the Teen Club at the Y. W. C. A.

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derers. Sat 6-15-46

The District Attorney's office labeled the case "one of the most vicious and atrociaus crimes in a long time," and police and park officials issued a warning to night park visitors, advising all persons that they were liable to be picked up as loiterers, after midnight, in New York's parks.

PRETTY 18-YEAR-OLD Yvonne Kenny stands beside her father, Eugene Kenny, after telling police how she was raped and her escort, Jack Hylands, Air Forces veterans, was killed as the pair walked through Central Park.

Intensify Search For Killer-Rapists

New York, N.Y. People's Voice

Police have intensified the search for three killers responsible for the murder of AAF veteran Jack Hylands and the rape of his girl-friend, Yvonne Kenny, eighteen-year-old high school student, last Saturday morning. Working only on the sketchy description Miss Kenny was able to supply and searching for a missing cigarette case, only clues in the case, 100 handpicked detectives scoured New York on orders from the Mayor to "crack the case."

Sat 6-15-46

Miss Kenny, native of Trinidad, British West Indies, was being escorted to her home, 60 E. 98 st by ex-Sergeant Hylands, white, and stopped in Central Park between 97 and 98 sts just off 5 av early Saturday morning. As the couple left their bench in East Walk, they were pounced upon by three youths who weret motivated, police believe, by robbery. Miss Kenny was dragged into the nearby bushes and raped by the thugs after they had bludgeoned Hylands savagely with pistol butts, blackjacks and their fists. Hylands was dead when police arrived at the scene. Miss Kenny had tried to "arouse" him and then made her way to Mt. Sinai Hospital where she told part of her story before passing out.

New York

Police immediately began a search and during the night picked up four trios, none of which was identified by the victim. Even a search of rogue's gallery known sex-killers failed to hint at a positive identification of either of the rapists-mur-

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Question Mark in Park Rape Case

Daily Worker

By Claudia Jones New York

The recent rape-murder crime in Central Park which shocked New Yorkers is developing a remarkable angle— New York

The press, which reported the arrest of three young murder-rapists who killed 20-year-old Jack Hylands and raped his escort Yvonne Kenny has displayed a curious coyness over the rape aspects of the case. These men, Edward Koberski, 22, Edward Kankoska, 21, and Henry Suckow, 24, are likewise up for a Queens holdup murder charge which occurred the same day of their rape of Yvonne Kenny.

The N.Y. **Daily News'** crime reporters, Royal Riley and Art Smith, hinted broadly at peculiar developments in this case when, following speedy police capture of these men, wrote it was possible that they "may never be punished specifically for those (New York Central Park) crimes." (June 21.)

Can it be that the Yvonne Kenny rape case will be dropped for reasons other than the facts yet revealed? Tues 6-25-46

The Daily Worker believes that this may happen, for the following reasons:

Because Yvonne Kenny is a young Negro woman.

This fact alone illustrates why there appears to be a sudden drop of interest in the case by the Hearst - Patterson - McCormick axis and the press as a whole.

Can anyone imagine what the headlines of the Hearst-Patterson-McCormick press would have been like had the situation been reversed; that is: had three Negroes been involved instead of whites?

According to Jimcrow justice, the headlines would have screamed: **"Burly dark Negroes raped white womanhood." "Central Park Unsafe; for Negroes Prowl,"** etc. As a matter of fact, early stories inferred that a "hunt" was on in "dope" centers "in Harlem" for these criminals.

Now that the truth is coming to light, the **Mirror**, the **News** and the **World-Telegram** are uninterested, because Yvonne Kenny, rape victim, is a Negro woman, of West Indian parentage.

Widespread early stories in the same press, following the Central Park crime, hinted broadly that Yvonne Kenny's assailants were "dark-complexioned." It is possible that even then they were seeking for the "usual angle." Instead of a one-day headline, then, the reactionary press would have whipped up a daily lynch campaign calling for the blood of all Negroes in the city of New York.

Because the Kennys passed the "color line."

That is not all to the Yvonne Kenny case. It appears that the family of this unfortunate girl have "passed" the "color line." The Daily Worker does not know all the reasons involved, nor is this a libel on the family itself. But we do know that thousands of Negro Americans have been forced to do so, to escape the Jimcrow laws of capitalist oppression in order to secure employment, better living conditions, escape from discriminatory housing and educational laws, etc.

These facts are in the census and reams have been written about it. Hence it is an indictment not on people who do so, but on the Jimcrow system, which forces individuals to deny their origin in order to live and exist. It is an indictment primarily on the stupid pro-fascist "theories" of "race supremacy" for indeed, who can tell whether some persons are whites or Negroes?

Because of fraternization of Negroes and whites.

Not the least of all questions involved is that Jack Hylands who bravely defended Yvonne Kenny at the loss of his life, was white. Can it be that police departments and the courts will now hop off this case because—also involved—**is the question of fraternization of whites and Negroes on a social level in New York State?** Tues 6-25-46

Will the courts prosecute the criminals on the rape charge of a Negro woman?

Undoubtedly the three men indicted first on the hold-up murder charge will be electrocuted. But will the Hearst-Patterson-McCormick press and other respectable capitalist newspapers dare to bring the real issues behind this case to its readers?

The Daily Worker is the only newspaper which dares to print the real facts behind this case—and to basically analyze them. We are interested in seeing justice done to Yvonne Kenny, in exposing the lynch justice against Negro citizens, both in the interests of the Negro people, labor and the nation as a whole.

Will the capitalist newspapers, the police department and the courts do likewise?

Rape-Murder Brings Park Crackdown: 12 Arrested

P.M.

Twelve persons, including one charged with rape, were arrested in Central Park late Monday and early yesterday by heavily increased police patrols detailed there as a result of a rape and murder Saturday night. Wed 6-12-46

Of the 12, five got suspended sentences after pleading guilty to being in the park after midnight curfew hour; a sixth was remanded for sentence June 18; a soldier, reported AWOL, was turned over to the Army; a Japanese-German-American girl, Rita Nomi, 18, who was found in the park at 4 a.m. after being escorted out by police at 1 a.m., was released for further hearing June 25; and three teenagers, who carried wrenches with which they said they planned a holdup, were charged variously with juvenile delinquency and violation of the Sullivan Law.

The rape charge was filed against Vincent J. Rimpatti, 19, of Brooklyn, who allegedly attacked Scarlett Forque, 18, of Houston, Tex., near the spot where Yvonne Kenny, 18, was raped Saturday and her escort, ex-serviceman Jocelyn Hylands, 20, was slain by three hoodlums. New York.

Miss Forque said she arrived in New York on Monday, met Rimpatti in Times Square that night, and had a few drinks with him. She said she accompanied him in a taxi to the park after he threatened her. As they were leaving the park together, she hailed a policeman, who arrested Rimpatti. He was held in $7500 bail in Felony Court pending further hearing on Friday.

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2 GUILTY IN GIRL'S MURDER

New York Times

Jury Makes No Recommendation in First-Degree Conviction

William Washington, 28 years old, of 1884 Pacific Street, and Arthur Johnson, 29, of 2062 Fulton Street, both of Brooklyn, were convicted yesterday in Kings County Court of first-degree murder in the slaying of 15-year-old Rose Palermo. Since the all-male jury made no recommendations, the two face death in the electric chair.

The men had been charged with assaulting and then murdering the girl in the early morning of Feb. 2 in an unoccupied house at 10 Louis Place, Brooklyn, two doors from her home. She was returning home after attending a church dance in South Brooklyn.

Judge Samuel S. Leibowitz, who presided at the trial, remanded the prisoners to the City Prison to await sentencing, no date for which was fixed. Sat. 6-29-46

7398

7398

Two Charged In Kidnaping Girl of 15

Richmond, Va.
Times-Dispatch
Tues 9-3-46

248

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Sept. 2—(UP)—Two ex-convicts were charged today with kidnaping, criminally assaulting and beating 15-year-old Peggy Shore and leaving her crying in a field near Johnson City, Tenn., after a terror ride from her home in Elkton, N. C.

FBI Agent John C. Bills, of Charlotte, brought the charges against Ralph Vernon Litteral, 34, of Winston-Salem, N. C., and Marvin C. Bell, 23, of Yadkinville, N. C. Litteral now is serving a 60-day sentence on a road gang following his conviction in Winston-Salem of liquor law violations.

Bills told how the two assailants of Peggy, daughter of an Elkin textile mill worker, had trailed in an automobile the bus on which she was riding.

Peggy alighted when the bus stopped at a poorly illuminated road and started to walk the few blocks to her home in the Pleasant Hills section. As the bus pulled away, they seized her, threw her roughly into their car and sped away. The girl's cries for help were drowned in the roar of the bus engine.

Night of Terror

That was shortly before midnight on August 23.

After a wild night of terror during which the girl was raped, brutally beaten and otherwise abused, she was dragged from the car and left screaming and crying in a field near Johnson City. Her resistance to her attackers was futile. Tues.

Tennessee farmers, hearing her cries, found the girl, her clothing blood-soaked and torn, and her face and body badly bruised. They called doctors and notified police.

Litteral and Bell face death sentences if convicted of the charges against them, which include violation of the Lindbergh kidnaping law.

Winston-Salem police said Litteral had a crime record "a mile long." 9-3-46

"He has been convicted of just about everything in the book," said an officer who looked up his record. It dated from 1929, and since that time he has served time for assault upon a woman, larceny, drunkenness and other law violations. He had served on road gangs several times and served one term in the Federal penitentiary.

Bell had been paroled from the reformatory at Petersburg, Va., where he was serving a sentence for violation of liquor laws. He was arrested at his home in Yadkinville today by FBI men and was arraigned before a United States marshal.

34j 1946

Ohio

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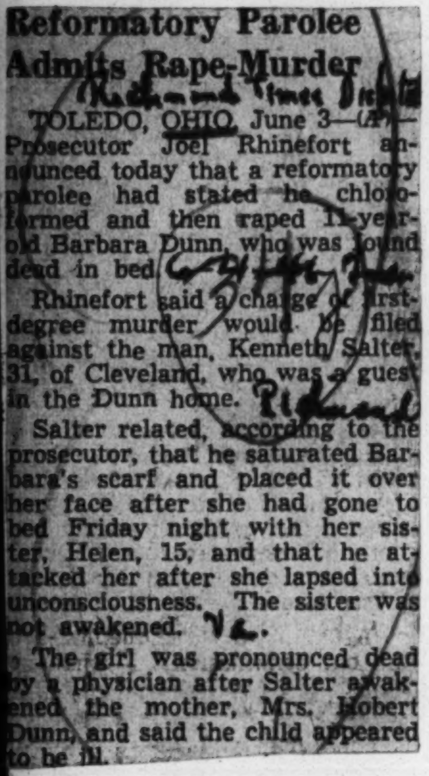


Reformatory Parolee Admits Rape-Murder

(Richmond Times Dispatch

TOLEDO, OHIO, June 3—(AP)—Prosecutor Joel Rhinefort announced today that a reformatory parolee had stated he chloroformed and then raped 11-year-old Barbara Dunn, who was found dead in bed.

Rhinefort said a charge of first-degree murder would be filed against the man, Kenneth Salter, 31, of Cleveland, who was a guest in the Dunn home. Richmond

Salter related, according to the prosecutor, that he saturated Barbara's scarf and placed it over her face after she had gone to bed Friday night with her sister, Helen, 15, and that he attacked her after she lapsed into unconsciousness. The sister was not awakened. Va.

The girl was pronounced dead by a physician after Salter awakened the mother, Mrs. Robert Dunn, and said the child appeared to be ill.

Boy, 14, Strangles Girl, Casts Body In Creek

News Birmingham, Ala

HARRISBURG, Pa., June 25—(AP)—A 3-year-old girl was strangled and her body thrown into a small creek a few blocks from her suburban Lawnton home after a "scared" 14-year-old boy attempted to rape her, State Police Sergeant Edwin J. Stroman reported today.

The slaying of little Margie Vaughn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Paul Vaughn, occurred yesterday, Stroman said, adding he had arrested the boy—a neighbor of the victim—and was holding him for action by the district attorney.

Wed. 6-26-46

Stroman announced flatly tha the youngster "confessed the whol thing" after intensive questionin.

Deputy Coroner George M. Klitc said death was due to suffocatio. He said that numerous bruises on the body indicated the little girl put up a terrific struggle before she died.

6-26-46

34j

Baltimore Widow Tells of Escape After Abduction

Times-Dispatch Richmond, Va.

Wed. 8-14-46

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 13—(AP)—A young Baltimore blonde told police today a harrowing story of being abducted by three men who attempted to rape her during a 95-mile automobile ride here and then tossed her over a wall beside the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks.

The attractive woman, who identified herself at Presbyterian Hospital as Mrs. Catherine Richardson, 22-year-old widow, was found unconscious by a railroad crewman.

34j Pa.

At the hospital physicians said the woman, dressed in a black dress and black slippers, is suffering from a painful back injury.

Slowly Mrs. Richardson told detectives this story:

She got into an automobile at Baltimore about midnight, expecting to be driven home. The three men, who she named, attempted to rape her, but she fought them off. Swung by her hands and feet, she was tossed over a wall to the tracks 15 feet below. There she lay helpless for about an hour with trains thundering past only a few feet away.

34j Pa.

SLAYER'S VICTIM — Margery Vaughn.

First Degree Murder Charged To Boy, 14, In Death Of Girl, 3

Birmingham News Birmingham, Ala

Wed. 6-26-46

HARRISBURG, Pa., June 26—(AP)—Dist. Atty. Carl B. Shelley filed murder charges today against 14-year-old John Allen Howells, former military school student, who, he said, admitted the attempted rape and the strangulation of little Margery Ann Vaughn, 3.

Hearing was delayed while psychiatrists studied mental status of the youth. Denying a previous report Howells had been found sane, Shelley said it may be several days before a decision is reached.

34j

Shelley said the youth will be tried in General Sessions Court, rather than Juvenile Court, because the latter has no jurisdiction in murder cases. 6-26-46

The crime was reenacted yesterday with Shelley and state police watching. The boy showed how he choked the child, beat her with his fists and tossed her body face downward in a creek after failing in a rape attempt. 6-26-46

Pa.

State Police Corp. Joseph Pochyba quoted the boy:

"After I choked her, I knew sh was dead. I asked her to pull u her dress and when she said sh was going to tell her parents, I jumped at her, grabbed her by th throat, knocking her down.

"I choked and beat her until he face became purple and the bloo came out of her mouth. I then lai her down in the sand. I checke her body to see if she was dea I was sure she was dead. I the picked her up and placed her fac down so that no blood would get on my clothes and to wash off any fingerprints. 6-26-46

"Then I went home to supper."

The victim was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Paul Vaughn, of suburban Lawnton. Her father a road contractor.

Court Convicts Balles On Misconduct Charge

Montgomery Ala Advertiser

NORRISTOWN, PA. Aug. 16.—(AP)—George W. Balles, Jr., 33, former headmaster of the now closed Warminster Academy, was sentenced to 7 1-2 to 15 years of prison today on rape and morals charges involving students at the school.

34j

Judge Harold G. Knight fixed the penalty after refusing a motion for new trial from Defense Attorney Edward B. Duffy who based the plea on what he termed newly discovered evidence. Duffy said an appeal will be taken to Supreme Court. 8-17-46

District Attorney Frederick B. Smillie objected to a new trial and announced at the same time he was investigating activities of Balles lately while he has been at liberty under $13,000 bail. Sat.

Mrs. Balles, who was convicted with her husband but won a new trial, was in the courtroom when sentence was pronounced. She missed Balles before he was taken away to Montgomery Country prison.

Young Blonde Tells Harrowing Story Of Ride, Assault

The Advertiser Montgomery, Ala

Wed. 8-14-46

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 13—(AP)—A young Baltimore blonde told police today a harrowing story of being abducted by three men who attempted to rape her during a 95-mile automobile ride here and then tossed her over a wall beside the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks.

34j

The attractive woman, who identified herself at Presbyterian Hospital as Mrs. Catherine Richardson, 22-year-old widow, was found unconscious by a railroad crewman.

Pa.

At the hospital, physicians said the woman, dressed in a black dress and black slippers, is suffering from a painful back injury.

Slowly, Mrs. Richardson told detectives this story.

She got into an automobile at Baltimore about midnight, expecting to be driven home. The three men, who she named, attempted to rape he r, but she fought them off. Swung by her hands and feet, she was tossed over a wall to the trackes 15-feet below. There she lay helpless for about an hour with trains thundering past only a few feet away.

34j Pa.

Man Is Charged With Assaulting Schoolgirl

The News Birmingham, Ala

ALLENTOWN, Pa., Oct. 4—(AP)—Clair T. Randolph, [illegible], was held today without bail on a charge of raping a 14-year-old pupil at the private school operated by his wife, Mildred, in nearby Whitehall Township.

34j

State police said Randolph's wife, who is headmistress and sole teacher of 20 students, "apparently had no knowledge of her husband's actions." Fri. 10-4-46

Lehigh County Dist. Atty. T. R. Gardner said the assaults first began last year but the girl explained she was afraid to tell her mother. However, after she returned to school a few weeks ago she reported an incident.

State police took Randolph into custody at his home and remanded him to jail for a hearing Monday.

The school was opened in 1937 as a progressive school to provide special attention to physically and mentally retarded children.

The Pennsylvania Superior Court meantime rejected an application for bail from George W. Balles, Jr., 37-year-old headmaster of Warminister Academy at Three Tuns, who is appealing a seven and one-half to 15-year sentence for similar morals charges.

Young Man Charged With Rape Attempt In King St. House

Charleston, S.C.

News and Courier

Charged with attempting to ravish a 21-year-old white woman in a King street rooming house early Sunday afternoon, Bertram D. Neiberg, a 25-year-old marine, was lodged at the county jail in default of $[illegible],000 bond after a preliminary hearing yesterday before Magistrate Thomas A. Matthews.

34j

Policeman James Bowick, who was en route to the police station to go on duty and made the arrest along with Policeman James F. Tindol, testified before the magistrate that Neiberg apparently had broken a screen to unlatch a door to make his entrance. He slipped into the young woman's room while she was asleep. He undresed and got in bed with the girl and she awoke when he attempted to remove her underclothing. She screamed and then snatched a pistol she kept in the room and held the man at bay.

The magistrate said that the young woman apparently decided against remaining in the room with the man, and left. Policemen Bowick and Tindol arrested him a short time later in King street. The young woman's sister told the magistrate she had seen the marine start into the room and, cautioned him to stay away. She left, thinking the marine had gone, but ran to her sister's room when she heard her scraem.

Tues.

The policeman said there was evidence that Neiberg had attempted to force his way into another woman's room in the same house. The victim of the uninvited guest said she had never seen the man before.

7.23-46

The only excuse for the offense, Magistrate Matthews said, was that the marine claimed he was drunk.

In another case before the magistrate David Simmons, of 52 Reid street, was jailed in default of $2,000 bond after he admited attempting to hold up Ralph Dority, of 35-A Carolina street.

Theater Janitor Accused of Raping 8-Year-Old Girl

The News and Courier

Charleston, S.C.

Thurs. 7-11-46

Accused of raping an eight-year-old negro girl, Charlie Frasier, 19-year-old janitor at the Dixie theater, Five Mile, was being hel dlast night at the county jail county police reported. The victim was admitted to Roper hospital for treatment of severe injuries suffered in the ordeal.

34j

In a signed confession, Frasier admitted taking the girl to a house in Read's tenement, north of the city, county police said. The occupants of the house were not present. Willie Junior Alston, 13, entered the house with them, but later left.

S.C.

He told county police he reentered the house when he heard the girl crying out, and found her with Frasier. He then told Frasier he would tell the girl's family and Frasier ran out of the house, he related to county police.

County Policemen Norwood M. West and Jesse D. Tumbleston reported to county police headquarters that the rape occurred at about 12:40 p. m. Frasier was arrested at 3:05 p. m., as he was leaving the Dixie theater.

Frasier has no previous police record.

7402

Two More Held On Rape Count In Albemarle

Richmond, Va.
Times-Dispatch
Thurs. 8-15-46

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Aug. 14—Two arrests late yesterday brought to six the number of men being held by Albemarle County authorities on charges of raping a 2 -year-old Charlottesville woman, who allegedly was attacked on the night of July 28 near Proffit.

34j

Accused in identical warrants are six men listed as Charles Dove, Jr., 18; Robert Knapp, 23; Dan Townsend, Jr., 24; Herbert Brown, 19; Bernice Smith, 21, and E. Desper. County authorities were unable to list their addresses, but it was stated that they were residents of Charlottesville.

Va.

Trial Justice Jesse B. Wilson yesterday set $5,000 bond for each, but all were in custody tonight. A tentative date of August 25 has been set for their hearing.

Knapp was arrested yesterday afternoon by Charlottesville police, while Desper was picked up by Virginia Beach police and will be returned to this city. The other four were arrested Monday.

County authorities refused to divulge details of the case, saying that the circumstances were such that they did not care to reveal them.

City police investigated the case Sunday, after which it was turned over to county authorities. It was revealed that the girl apparently went out with two other girls and three of the men, and as the other girls were taken to their homes the other three men were picked up.

Richmond's Touchstone

Times-Dispatch

ONLY a short time ago two Richmond detective sergeants with more than 20 years' service were reduced to the rank of police privates, for failure to turn recovered stolen money over to the department, and now a patrolman and an auxiliary officer have been arrested and suspended from the department pending disposition in the courts of charges that they raped a 32-year-old Negro mother. Richmond, Va.

34j Va.

There was much criticism of the Police Department as a result of the case involving the two sergeants. In addition to being charged before the captains' court with failure to turn the stolen sum over to the department, they also faced an accusation made by the owner of the money, to the effect that they had accepted $50 each as a reward for recovering the money. The captains' court presumably took no notice of that alleged violation of department rules. Thurs.

It is only fair to say that in suspending the two officers charged with raping a colored woman, CHIEF OF POLICE E. H. ORGAN has acted with proper regard for the public interest. Manifestly it would not have been good public policy to have allowed these men to serve on the police force with such charges hanging over them. 10-24-46

Those charges must be probed to the bottom, and all pertinent evidence must be adduced in Police Court on November 1, when the case is heard. It is manifestly just as heinous a crime for white men to rape a Negro woman as it is for Negro men to rape a white woman, and the manner in which this case is handled by the authorities will constitute a touchstone for Richmond justice.

If the accused parties are acquitted, after a full, fair and thorough trial, then they should be restored to duty on the police force, but if they are found guilty, they should be punished to the full extent of the law. We cannot have one set of penalties for the white race and another for the colored race. To do so would be to destroy respect for the law.

White Officers Released Under Only $2,000 Bonds

The Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Sat. 11-2-46

Woman Says Her Escort Ignored While Men in Uniform Commit Act

RICHMOND — Police officer Carl R. Burleson, 27, of 2015 Elsmere Ave., and Leonard E. Davis, 43, of 1418 Melton Ave., an auxiliary officer, were arrested Monday on charges of criminally attacking a 32-year-old mother of two children about 2:45 a.m. Sunday.

34j

When the case of the officers came up in police court Tuesday, a continuance to Nov. 1 was granted by Justice Jewett and the $2,000 bail for each of the officers was renewed by their attorney, Leith S. Bremner, white.

Va.

The victim, who is employed in a Broad St. store, charges that the officers took her from her escort, drove the police car into a dead end street where both attacked her in the rear of the auto.

In her story to Chief of Police E. H. Organ, the victim said she and her companion, Francis Hatchett, 24, of 705½ W. Leigh St., were returning to her home from a party when he insisted upon her riding with him to a night spot on the outskirts of the city.

Leaps From Moving Car

They were driving north on Chamberlayne Ave., she said, when she leaped out of the moving auto.

Her escort stopped the car, ran to her and was pleading with her to re-enter the car, promising that he would take her home, when the police squad car drove up.

One of the officers walked over to where they were standing, according to both the victim and her escort, and asked, "What is the trouble?"

She explained that she wanted to go home and her friend had insisted that she go to a club.

Obeys, Enters Auto

The officer thereupon told her to "get into that car over there" and we'll see that you get home, she continued.

Telling the officer it would not be necessary for them to take her home, her friend having agreed to do so, she was again ordered by the officer to get into the auto.

She obeyed and entered the police car, getting into the rear seat, she said, and the officer ordered Hatchett to "get moving."

He then came over and entered the police car and the driver started out Chamberlayne Ave., opposite direction from her home.

Cries, Prays

As she protested that they were moving in the wrong direction to reach her home, she said, the officer drove into the dead end street, the other clambered into the rear seat with her and attacked her.

When she attempted to protest or make an outcry, she said, the

office threatened to arrest her on charges of ill fame if she did not keep quiet. She cried and prayed all through the ordeal, she is quoted as saying.

Second Cop Attacks

The first officer then left the car, she said, and the other entered and subjected her to a similar ordeal.

The two officers then got into the front of the auto and drove her to a spot on W. Baker St., about four blocks from her home and told her to walk on home from there, she added.

According to her story, she reached home about 4 a.m., and early Sunday morning called her attorney, Lynwood E. Smith, told him the facts in the case, and he accompanied her to the chief's office.

Garments Ripped Off

he young woman is quoted as saying that her undergarments were torn off in the struggle in the car in a dead-end street in Brookfield Gardens, newly opened private housing project, and that the officers refused to permit her to take them.

After receiving the complaint from the young woman in the presence of her attorney, Chief Organ told the AFRO, he ordered Capt. Dan W. Duling to investigate her story and report back to him.

Both have since been suspended.

RICHMOND COPS INDICTED:

Whites Face Trial for Alleged Attack on Matron

The Afro-American
Baltimore, Md. Sat 11-16-46

RICHMOND—Indicted by the Hustings Court grand jury last week on charges of criminally attacking Mrs. Nannie Strayhorne, 32, attractive matron on Oct. 20 Traffic Officer Carl R. Burleson 27, and Leonard E. Davis, 43, auxiliary officer, will be tried Nov. 25.

34j Va.

Burleson, Army veteran, of 2015 Elsmere Ave. and Davis, of 1418 Melton Ave., both out under $2,000 bond, were among 40 persons against whom true bills were handed up to Judge John L. Ingram.

After Mrs. Strayhorne, of 617 St. Peter St., allegedly was criminally assaulted in the rear of a police car, and subsequently reported it to Police Chief E. H. Organ, the policemen were arrested by Capt. Dan W. Duling and Sgt. J. C. Bailey.

The officers reportedly took her from her escort.

Quarreled with Friend

Francis Hatchett, 24, of 712½ W. Leigh St., Mrs. Strayhorne's escort, had sought to induce her to go to a night club after leaving a party.

Mrs. Strayhorne leaped out of his car and while he was attempting to persuade her to re-enter it, the officers drove up in a patrol car, according to the reports.

One officer ordered her to get into their car, she said, and told Mr. Hatchett to "get moving." Ignoring her protests, she asserted, they drove in an opposite direction from her home to a dead-end street near Dale Rd. and Tyler St. in Brookfield Gardens.

It was in that isolated spot that the attacks by both officers took place, according to the matron, who said she was then carried to within about four blocks of her home and ordered to walk the rest of the distance.

34j Va.

Murder Trials Set

Trial dates for two men indicted on murder charges also were set by Judge Ingram in Hustings Court for Nov. 12. Those indicted were:

Melvin White, 54, of 736 N. Second St., for the brick murder of George Thomas, 55, of 210 W. Duval St., Oct. 22, and Henry Jones, 54, of 1410 W. Clay St., for the fatal shooting of Clemmie Palmer, Virginia Union University employee, Oct. 25.

Robert Adams, 26, of 1613 Buchanan St., was true-billed on charges of criminally attacking Miss Margaret Jones, 30, on Oct. 16, and Wilbur Hilliard, 17, of 1900 block N. 28th St., was indicted for allegedly attempting to criminally attack a white woman.

Indicted for Robbery

Indicted on robbery counts were Leonard N. Hughes, 18, of 600 block Idlewood Ave.; James

E. Jackson, 34, of 500 block Graham St.; James Matthews Jr., 23 of 1300 block W. Cary St. and James Pettaway of Baltimore who was accused of possessing burglary tools.

Among those billed on malicious wounding counts were Alphonso Rouse, 38, of 2500 block Nine Mile Rd., who allegedly assaulted his wife, Mrs. Annett

Afro-American

Rouse, and Miss Agnes Trent, 23 of 1100 block N. First St.

Held on larceny charges were Louis King, 19, of South Bos-
ton; John R. Branch, 27, of 600 block N. Seventh St.; Robert T. Woodson, 32, of E. Canal St.; John T. Jones, 32, of 900 block E. Leigh St.; Cassell Byrd, 20, of 1600 block Idlewood Ave.; Miss Ann Cole

Baltimore, Md.

man, 22, of 700 block N. First St. and Lurdas Holmes, 77, of 400 block E. Jackson St. Ernest Trent, 37, of King St., was indicted for burglary.

Sat. 11-16-46

Accuses 2 Cops

The Afro-American

249

Baltimore, Md.

MRS. HANNIE STRAYHORNE of Richmond, shown after she left police court, where two policemen she named as having criminally attacked her, had waived preliminary hearing, their cases being certified to the grand jury. The policemen are scheduled to face trial Nov. 25.

Sat. 11-16-46.

Attack Charged:

The Courier

249 Va.

Accused Cops Get New Trial Delay

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 12-21-46

RICHMOND, Va.—The trial of two Richmond policemen, both white, on charges of raping a 32-year-old woman in a police car, has been continued in Hustings Court for the second time.

This time the continuance was granted until Jan. 16, because one of the defendants, Traffic Officer Carl R. Burleson, 27, is in a hospital as a result of injuries suffered in a traffic accident Nov. 30. Burleson was reported to have suffered five broken ribs and other injuries.

The other defendant, Auxiliary Policeman Leonard E. Davis, 42, was in the courtroom when the continuance was granted Monday.

DEFENSE NOT READY

The case was set for trial originaly on Nov. 25, but was continued until this week at the request of James M. Turner, attorney for the accused men, who told Judge John L. Ingram he had been employed in the case on Nov. 22, and had not had time in which to prepare a defense.

Burleson and Davis are charged with raping the woman, mother of two children, after telling her they would take her home. She said she left a party given by a minister and one of the male guests agreed to drive her home. Instead, she said, he started driving in the opposite direction.

The Courier

While she and her escort argued about turning around and driving to her home, the policemen appeared, told her escort to "get going," and she got into the police car when Burleson said they would drive her to her home, she said.

IDENTIFY BOTH

Pittsburgh, Pa.

249

The woman said they raped her about 3 A. M., on Oct. 2[illegible]. Burleson and Davis were arrested the following day, after the woman picked Burleson out of a police line-up and "partially identified" Davis. Both have been suspended from the police department since Oct. 21, and each is free under a $2,000 bail bond for appearance in Hustings Court.

Sat. 12-21-46

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE ARCHIVES

File: 34j

NEW YORK

P.M.

Tells Jury Doctor Tried to Rape Her

Mrs. Lucille Neale, 29-year-old wife of a civil engineer, who said she went to a doctor to have her knee treated, testified yesterday in Monmouth County Court at Freehold, N. J., that the physician, a nationally known surgeon, assaulted and attempted to rape her at his office in Red Bank, N. J.

Mrs. Neale made her charges against Dr. Lyman Weeks Crossman, 61, a physician who is visiting surgeon at New York's City Hospital on Welfare Island, where he is considered an expert on frigid anaesthesia.

His defense, as his lawyer put it, is that "this lady is neurotic; her nerves are affected and she thought something was done to her that wasn't." Red. 6-19-46

Mrs. Neale, a rather pretty young woman with shining blonde hair, blonde to the roots, sat quietly in the back row of the courtroom yesterday with her young husband. Later she sat as quietly in the witness chair, demure in a grey suit and grey halo hat, answering questions in a flat childlike monotone.

Dr. Crossman, stocky, heavy-shouldered, his thin lips pressed tight, glowered at her from his seat beside his attorney, former County Prosecutor John J. Quinn.

The jury was made up of 11 women, all housewives but one, and one man, a boilermaker. The women were all kinds, in appearance—young to middle-aged, naive to sophisticated, shocked or unperturbed as they listened to the testimony. New York.

To the audience, mostly women, this was easily better than a movie.

The drama built up during the day, and the courtroom crowd grew accordingly. The prosecutor, J. Victor Carton, stated the charge against Dr. Crossman in non-technical terms. 6-19-46 Red.

First the young wife had kept an appointment made with the doctor, who formerly had treated her husband, for attention to a knee condition. On the second call, the prosecutor charged, the doctor brought up and discussed her sex life and suggested an examination, to which she submitted. In the treatment that followed then, and at the next appointment, there was nothing unprofessional. Red. 6-19-46

But the fourth appointment, according to the prosecution, resulted in an attempted attack by the doctor. She said he ended the attempt when she asked, "Doctor, what are you doing?"

Defense Attorney John Quinn strove to paint the charge of attempted rape as "humanly impossible" and the woman who charged it as so neurotic that "only God and nature could cure her."

He said, as the trial began, that he would bring in the examination table and ask the plaintiff to get on it to prove his point.

"And he will!" said veterans of trials here. "Heaven help a woman when Jack Quinn gets to work on the case." New York.

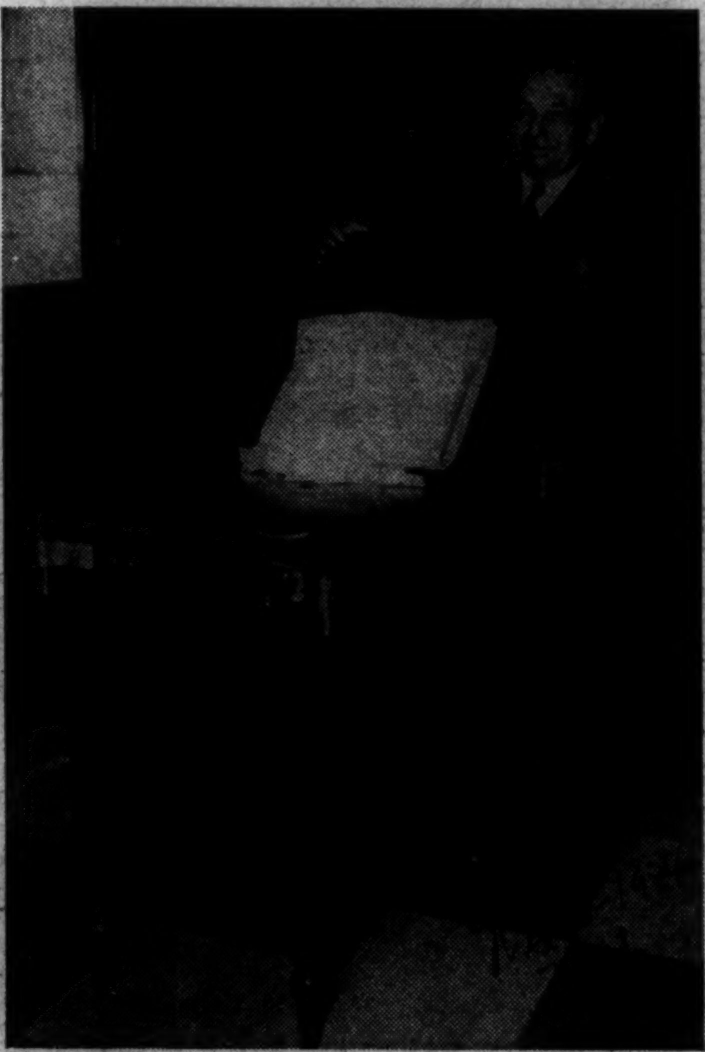
And he did. But Mrs. Neale did not even consider getting on the table. Prosecutor Carton leaped to his feet in objection, and the judge sustained him in balking the exhibition. Quinn then sought a man, slight and five feet four, Mrs. Neale's height, to get on the table.

A workman, five-four-and-a-half, volunteered and painfully put his feet into the stirrups. All this achieved was laughter.

The day was full of gossip and philosophy. Earlier, one woman had been excused from jury duty when she said she had made up her mind that "no woman gets raped unless she wants to.

Mrs. Lucille Neale, who accuses Dr. Lyman Crossman, distinguished surgeon, of attempted rape, is shown with two court matrons in Monmouth County Curt, at Freehold, N. J., as she attempted to ward off photographers during a recess following the selection of the jury.

Dr. Crossman, 61-year-old defendant, stands with a friend in the hall of the courtroom during a recess.



Dr. Crossman's examination table is wheeled out of the courtroom. Mrs. Neale charges attack took place on this table.

Part of the jury of 11 women and one man walking through the hall, going to lunch. At left is the forelady.

Photos by Martin Harris, PM

34k 1946

Editorials

7403

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
December 29, 1946

LYNCHINGS IN AMERICA

As is the annual custom President F. D. Patterson, of Tuskegee Institute, announces today the report of his Records and Research Department on 1946 lynchings in the United States. (34K) Edi,

Alabamians will be gratified that history for another year reveals no lynching within our State borders.

Of the six definitely established lynchings, in all of which Negroes were the victims, Mississippi had 1, Georgia 4, and Louisiana 1.

As President Patterson points out in his letter, this is the largest number of lynchings in several years. But if we find discouragement in this setback for the record of our civilization, let us go back and check the record of 40 years:

Lynchings in the U. S., 1907-1946:

1907	60	1927	16
1908	97	1928	11
1909	82	1929	10
1910	76	1930	21
1911	67	1931	13
1912	63	1932	8
1913	52	1933	28
1914	52	1934	15
1915	67	1935	20
1916	54	1936	8
1917	38	1937	8
1918	64	1938	6
1919	83	1939	3
1920	61	1940	5
1921	64	1941	4
1922	57	1942	5
1923	33	1943	3
1924	16	1944	2
1925	17	1945	1
1926	30	1946	6

And if this forty-year record offers astounding proof of progress, let it be remembered that in 1900 there were 115 lynchings, and in 1901 there were 130!

We offer these figures from no desire to salve the U. S. collective conscience for the brutality of 1946. Every lynching constitutes an indictment of every one of us in the eyes of the world, and an encouragement to the enemies of democracy. The lynch spirit is a carry-over from the jungle, and the ugliest blight upon what we are trying to make in fact a "Christian civilization."

Here in Alabama we owe a debt of thanks to the alert officers of the law, and to the sane, courageous men-on-the-street, who have prevented a single blot on Alabama's name during 1946.

As we note the lynchings year after year in our sister States of Georgia and Mississippi, it is impossible to escape the belief that the Bilbo and Talmadge political leadership in these States has been a contributing factor. While the Christian decency of our people must receive the major credit for Alabama's favorable record, yet there can be no doubt that the sane, humanitarian attitudes on the race problem held by men like Bibb Graves, Chauncey Sparks, Lister Hill, and John Sparkman have been a major factor.

In 1947 the goal of every Alabama citizen must be another clean State record. From his public expressions there is every reason to believe that Governor-elect Jim Folsom will use the full power of his office to keep lynchings out of Alabama.

The goal of every American—and particularly of every Southerner—should be a clean record for the Nation. In 1945 there was only one American lynching. For the sake of our Christian conviction, our personal decency, and world respect for American democracy, we must make 1947 a "no-lynching" year.

Jackson, Miss. News
December 27, 1946

THE 1946 LYNCHING RECORD

A statistician at Tuskegee Institute who thinks it is important to keep a record of such events has issued a statement saying six lynchings took place during the year now closing, of which four were in Georgia, one in Mississippi and one in Louisiana.

The statistician appears to be a bit excited about it and cites his 1945 report showing only one lynching took place during that year. Evidently he thinks that the 1946 record is an alarming increase. He also says: (34K) Edi,

"There are four borderline cases which are not included in the total number of lynchings for 1946 because to date sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained."

The statistician is kind enough to say there were seventeen instances in which lynchings were prevented; that 14 of these were by officers of the law and three by persons not connected with the law.

The trouble with most statistics relative to lynchings is that when some negro criminal happens to meet with sudden death it is counted as a lynching. As a matter of fact the National Negro Council, the American Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and kindred organizations, can't see much difference between the legal hanging or the electrocution of a negro and a sure-enough lynching.

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Lynchings—True and Phony

Times-Dispatch

TUSKEGEE Institute's annual lynching tabulation is published in today's Voice of the People. There were six lynchings during 1946, and four "borderline cases" are not included. If half of these are authentic, we have a total of eight lynchings, and if all are genuine, the figure is 10. (34K) Edi

This is eight, or 10, too many, of course, but it is far fewer than certain agitators have been claiming. Both in a conference at the White House some months ago, and then at a Negro Youth Congress in Columbia, S. C., the contention was advanced by these advocates of Federal antilynching legislation that 41 lynchings have taken place in the South since V-J Day. Richmond, Va.

No case for Federal legislation was ever soundly made on the basis of phony statistics. The statistics presented at the conferences in question were obviously compiled by listing various kinds of plain killings as "lynchings." If a gang murder, or an ordinary homicide, is to be termed a lynching, then New York and Chicago have been piling up an immense "lynching" total for several decades.

Tuskegee is aware that there is a twilight zone where the precise nature of a given killing is not sharply defined, and it knows that a few such cases have taken place in the South during the past year. But dozens of cases which Tuskegee, with its long experience in such tabulations, does not regard as remotely describable as lynchings, are so listed by the professional agitators.

The burden is upon the latter to prove that their claims are valid. Tuskegee, a disinterested institution with a reputation for high integrity, has shown clearly, at least by implication, that it regards these claims as spurious. It will take a lot more evidence than has thus far been produced to prove that Tuskegee is wrong. Sun. 12-29-46

Where Has Been the "Orgy"?

News and Courier

In enlightening journals of Big Burgs we have frequently read the phrase, in the last 12 months, "orgy of lynching in the South". Today we read in a newspaper published and edited by Southern negroes that Tuskegee Institute reports that the number of lynchings in the United States in 1946 has been, this day, six—one in Mississippi, one in Louisiana and four in Georgia. Tuskegee authorities have not investigated the case of the beating of a man to death by 10 persons summoned by telephone in the borough of Queens, New York, reported by The New York Times. The News and Courier does not expect and would no ask that Tuskegee Institute fully investigate lynchings in

34K Edi

the United States north of the Mason and Dixon Line. The News and Courier would not have its investigators overworked. Where has been the "orgy"? Charleston, S.C.

Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch
December 29, 1946

Lynchings—True and Phony

34K Edi.

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Columbia, S. C., State
January 3, 1947

TUSKEEGEE'S LYNCHING REPORT

34K Edi

The annual report of Tuskeegee institute as to the number of lynchings taking place in the United States lists six victims, four of whom were killed in the now-famous Georgia case, where three men and a woman were murdered by a mob. The other two lynchings were in Mississippi and Louisiana.

The report says four "borderline" cases were not included in the 1946 total as sufficient evidence concerning them had not been received. We wonder if one of these is that Illinois episode where nine white men were slapped on the wrist with a $200 fine each for riddling a Negro's body with bullets and tossing it aside. However, since this mob-murder took place north of the Mason-Dixon line perhaps it was just a slaying even though the victim was a Negro. It it quite right that failure to call lynchings lynchings when they occur in other sections doesn't excuse the South, and no right thinking person would want it to do so, or think it should, but a lynching is a lynching whether it takes place in one section or another, and we take no stock either in the premise that unless the victim is a Negro it is not a lynching, just because the name arose from the lynch law.

South Carolina, we are proud to report, has not had a lynching in many, many years, not since back in the 1920's, despite the fact that about a decade ago Tuskeegee tried to tie the labol to a South Carolina crap-shooting homicide at Georgetown.

We regret that the record for the entire South (if lynchings elsewhere are not to be counted) was worse in 1946 than in 1945, the four for the year now ending comparing with only one in 1945, two in 1944, three in 1943 and five in 1942. In other words, our record is the worst for 1946 that it has been in four years.

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Wed 1-1-47

There's A Difference

34K Edi.

The Tuskegee Department of Records and Research lists only six lynchings in 1946. "This is five more than the number 1 for 1945; 4 more than the number 2 for the year 1944, 3 more than the year 1943 and 1 more than the number 5 for 1942."

The figures as reported by the Tuskegee Researchers vary very greatly from a similiar survey completed by the Washington Post, in which it comments as follows;

"Mob violence has been so ugly and so widespread in recent months as to constitute an urgent national problem. There have been 41 lynchings since V-J Day. All the victims were Negroes and nearly all of them were veterans. There appears to have been a pattern to this brutal lawlessness—a pattern designed to strike terror in the hearts of men who have returned from their war service with a determination to share in the freedom and the human rights they fought to preserve. It has been inspired and agitated by the kind of bigotry mouthed during the campaign for renomination by Senator Bilbo and it has come to bear all the aspects of a campaign of oppression and intimidation."

Speaking to a New York audience some months ago, Aubrey Williams lamented the fact of a sort of reign of terror taking place over the South, where the forces of law are being turned against the Negro, the "worst thing that has happened in 40 years," he warned. "Colored people are crucified, not once a day, but several times a day on trains, busses, in stores, or wherever they seek to work or live, and to date, "federal action has amounted to practically nothing."

Thus, no matter if there were no more than six legal lynchings under the definition of the Tuskegee Researchers, the fact remains that these six in no wise indicate the true picture faced by Negroes in the Southland. And even in the North, tensions are so severe that at anytime an explosion is expected to go off. Wed. 1-1-47

Giving Them A Club

34K

The South lost ground, in this year that is almost ended, in reducing the lynch evil. For the past two of three years, the number of persons lynched had been brought down to one or two annually.

But 1946 already has six to its discredit—four in Georgia, one in Louisiana, and one in Mississippi. Alabama and Tennessee had clean marks. The Georgia lynching was a mass affair—two Negro men and their wives were lined up and shot down in cold blood. The Advertiser Edi.

There might have been 17 other cases of mobs taking the law into their own hands. In 14 of these cases, officers of the law prevented mob action; in three others, individuals stopped lynchings. Montgomery, Ala

The 1946 record will help to stoke the demand of the Republican Party, plus some Eastern Democrats, for an anti-lynching law. It has been staved off the past 12 or 14 years by the dominant position of the South in both houses of Congress. In the meanwhile, the number of lynchings dropped steadily until this year. Thurs. 1-2-47

But there is a cantankerous element in the North and East, mainly Republican, that steadily pushes Federal action, in the hope that it will bring the Negro voters of those two sections back into the Republican Party.

Whenever the lynch evil, which all citizens in the South deplore, gets worse, a club is placed in the hands of this group to force Federal action.—Huntsville Times.

Tell It To Old Grandma

FOR A CLEAN 1947 RECORD

1946 34K Edi.

Editor, The Advertiser:

All Alabamians should be proud of the record we have achieved. As much as we regret reading, "Tuskegee Figures Show 1946 Tops Lynch Record," not one was committed in Alabama.

Alabama, with Montgomery as its capital, and the Cradle of the Confederacy, needs congratulate herself. Not only does our State preach and teach democracy, but she "practices what she preaches."

Her bordering states, Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana, are the lone states of the Union in which "unbridled" men took the law in their hands. Mon 1-6-47

Even here in Montgomery there were at least two cases in which our officers showed themselves to good advantage, and Montgomery as well as our proud State has kept its skirts clean. Let us all join in with righteousness, justice, truth and mercy to make 1947 a "lynchless" year, not only in Alabama, but throughout these United States of America.

REV. W. F. MADISON, D. D.
115 South Hall Street
Montgomery, Ala.

34k 1946

General

7298

TUSKEGEE COMPILES STATISTICAL RECORD OF LYNCHINGS

34K

TUSKEGEE, Ala. (ANP)—Following on the heels of the Monroe, Georgia, lynching, the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute, released a statistical record of lynchings in the United States, covering he period 1882 to 1946. The record shows that 1,291 whites and 3,422 Negroes were lynched during the 64-year period covered, making a grand total of 4,713 mob victims. Sat 8-24-46

The record, broken down by regions and states, shows the following (in the following tables, the first column of figure pertains to whites, and the second column to Negroes while the third column shows the total. The fourth column of figures shows the percentage of the United States total):

N. E. States	W	N	T	
Maine	0	0	0	
New Hampshire	0	0	0	
Vermont	0	0	0	
Massachusetts	0	0	0	
Rhode Island	0	0	0	
Connecticut	0	0	0	
New York	1	1	2	
New Jersey	0	1	1	
Pennsylvania	2	6	8	
Total for Region	3	8	11	0.2
North Central States				
Ohio	10	16	26	
Indiana	33	14	47	
Illinois	14	18	32	
Michigan	7	1	8	
Wisconsin	6	0	6	
Minnesota	5	4	9	
Iowa	17	2	19	
Missouri	51	71	122	
North Dakota	13	3	16	
South Dakota	27	0	27	
Nebraska	52	5	57	
Kansas	35	19	54	
Total for Region	270	153	423	8.8
Southern States				
Delaware	0	1	1	
Maryland	2	27	29	
Dist. of Col.	0	0	0	
Virginia	16	83	99	
West Virginia	21	28	49	
North Carolina	15	84	99	
South Carolina	4	155	159	
Georgia	38	487	525	
Florida	25	256	281	
Kentucky	64	141	205	
Tennessee	47	203	250	
Alabama	47	299	346	
Mississippi	41	532	573	
Arkansas	59	226	285	
Louisiana	56	334	390	
Oklahoma	82	41	123	
Texas	143	346	489	
Total for [illegible]	660	3,243	3,903	82.8
Western States				
Montana	82	2	82	
Idaho	20	0	20	
Wyoming	30	5	35	
Colorado	66	2	68	
New Mexico	33	3	36	
Arizona	29	0	29	
Utah	6	2	8	
Nevada	6	0	6	
Washington	25	1	26	
Oregon	20	1	21	
California	41	2	43	
Total for Region	358	18	376	7.9
Grand Total All Regions	1,291	3,422	4,713	

34K

Nation's Lynch Toll Nears 5,000; South Leads List

Defender. Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-17-

Sat 8-17-46

34K

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—America's little publicized lynch record has grown to horrible dimensions with a staggering total of 4,713 known mob victims during the past 64 years, according to a Tuskegee Institute survey released here last week.

The cold facts of the burning disgrace, released on the heels of recent Georgia and Mississippi lynch sprees, covered the period from 1882 to 1946. Among other facts revealed was that "lynch law" is relatively democratic, since it crossed the color line 1,291 to hit white victims. However, Negroes comprising the remainder of the total, soared well above the 10 per cent quota, so frequently assigned to them in limiting normal citizenship rights.

South Leads 8-17-46

Murdering 82.8 of the nation's mob violence victims, for a total of 3,903, the southern states maintained a comfortable lead with Mississippi heading the list, accounting for 753. Georgia, racing for the iron cross, slaughtered 525; Texas ran a close third with 489; Louisiana 390; Arkansas 285; Florida 281; Tennessee 250; Kentucky 205; South Carolina 159; Oklahoma 123; North Carolina 99; Virginia 99; Maryland 29, and Delaware 1.

White victims comprised 660 of the total southern lynchings.

Three northeastern states, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, were credited with two per cent of the nation's total.

With Missouri accounting for 122 lynch victims, the North Central states including Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas added 8.8 per cent to the ghastly total.

Eleven Western states, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada,

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In 1943

the German-American Bund and the Ku Klux Klan probably exulted over the 71 "known" lynchings recorded in the period between 1935 and 1945.

In that decade, Mississippi led again with 20 known lynchings, Georgia 15, Florida 11, Alabama 9, Tennessee and Louisiana 3 each, North Carolina, Arkansas and Texas 2 each. Michigan, Missouri, Oklahoma and South Carolina 1 each.

Most research on lynchngs does not include the many atrocities remaining in the "unknown" category, while other incidents escape, because they remain undefined for "technical" reasons.

"Legal" lynchings such as that of Odell Waller in Virginia in 1942 are not included in the statistics.

1946 Lynching Toll: Six Negroes in South

PM New York, N.Y. Times, 12-31-46

34K

By Associated Press

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Lynchings in 1946 claimed the lives of six Negroes in three southern states, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, said in the institution's 33d annual lynching report. It was the largest number in recent years—one lynching in Mississippi, four in Georgia, and one in Louisiana. There also were four "borderline cases." Two indictments have been returned but no convictions have resulted.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
December 29, 1946

Six Negroes

34K

Lynched in 1946

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 28.—(AP)—Six Negroes in three Southern states—the largest number in recent years—lost their lives this year as a result of lynchings, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee institute, announced Saturday.

The information was included in the thirty-third annual lynching report compiled by the institution's department of records and research.

States in which the lynchings occurred were Mississippi (1), Georgia (4), and Louisiana (1). In the latter state, another victim later regained consciousness and escaped from the same mob, Dr. Patterson said.

"The peak year for lynchings," he revealed, "was 1892 following the Civil War, when 231 persons—69 white and 162 Negroes—lost their lives."

Dr. Patterson said the greatest number of lynchings recorded since Tuskegee began the annual compilations was in 1919, when 76 Negroes and seven white persons were killed in mob actions.

Columbia, S. C.
December 29, 19

Mobs Lynched 6 During 1946

28

34K

[illegible] persons were lynched by mobs during 1946, according to a report released by F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, based on records compiled by the school's research department.

An additional four cases are not included since, to date, sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained.

Since 1942, according to the report, 17 persons have been lynched. Five in 1942, three in 1943, two in 1944, one in 1945, and six during 1946.

At least 17 lynchings were prevented during 1946. In 14 cases the mob was circumvented by officers of the law, and in the other three by people unconnected with the police.

Of the 17, 16 were attempted in Southern states, and one in the North. Among this group, one man was white, and the rest Negroes.

Offenses charged against the six Negroes lynched in 1946 were, one, stealing a saddle—two others later confessed to this crime; one, stabbing a man; three, no charge, they were simply riding in the same automobile as one of the victims; and one, for attempting to break into a house. In this case, the man was jailed and later released only to be lynched by the mob.

States in which the lynchings occurred were, Mississippi, 1; Georgia, 4; and Louisiana, 1. Another victim of the Louisiana mob later regained consciousness and escaped.

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
December 29, 1946

6 Negro Lynchings Reported In 1946

34K

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Dec. 28—(AP)—Six Negroes in three Southern states—the largest number in recent years—lost their lives this year as a result of lynchings, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, announced today.

The information was included in the 33rd annual lynching report compiled by the institution's department of records and research.

States in which the lynchings occurred were Mississippi (1) Georgia (4), and Louisiana (1). In the latter state, another victim later regained consciousness and escaped from the same mob, Dr. Patterson said.

"The peak year for lynchings," he revealed, "was 1892 following the Civil War when 231 persons—69 white and 162 Negroes lost their lives."

Dr. Patterson said the greatest number of lynchings recorded since Tuskegee began the annual compilations was in 1919 when 76 Negroes and 7 white persons were killed in mob actions.

He listed lynching figures for the past four years as follows: 1942—5; 1943—3; 1944—2; and 1945—1.

"There were four borderline cases this year involving four persons," the Tuskegee president said. "Investigations failed to produce sufficient evidence to substantiate a lynching classification."

There were at least 17 instances, he added, in which lynchings were prevented, 14 of them by officers of the law and three by other individuals. All but one were in Southern states and involved 21 Negroes and one white person.

Dr. Patterson said two indictments have been returned—one each in Mississippi and in Louisiana—but no convictions have resulted from [illegible] lynchings.

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
December 29, 1946

SIX LYNCHED IN YEAR

34K

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—(AP)—Six Negroes in three southern states—the largest number in recent years—lost their lives this year as a result of lynchings, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, announced yesterday.

Wilmington N C Morning Star
December 29, 1946

Tuskegee Reports Six Lynchings During Year

34K

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 28—(AP)

In Southern States

34K

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 30—(AP)—Lynchings in 1946 claimed the lives of six Negroes in three southern states, Dr. F. D. Patterson, presi-

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Nashville, Tenn., Banner
December 30, 1946

Lynchings in 1946 Claim Six Negroes

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The information was included in the 33rd annual lynching report complied by the institution's department of records and research.

States in which the lynchings occurred were Mississippi (1), Georgia (4), and Louisiana (1). In the letter state, another victim later regained consciousness and escaped from the same mob, Dr. Patterson said.

"The peak year for lynchings," he revealed, "was 1892 following the civil war when 231 persons—69 white and 163 Negroes— lost their lives."

dent of Tuskegee Institute, said in the institution's 33rd annual lynching report.

It was the largest number in recent years, he added, listing one lynching in Mississippi, four in Georgia, and one in Louisiana.

There also were four "borderline cases this year involving four persons," the Tuskegee president said, but "investigations failed to produce sufficient evidence to substantiate a lynching classification."

Dr. Patterson said two indictments have been returned but no convictions have resulted from this year's lynchings.

The greatest number of lynchings recorded since Tuskegee began the annual compilations was in 1919, the report said, when 76 Negroes and seven white persons were mob victims.

However, 1892 was assertedly the peak year when at least "231 persons—69 white and 162 Negroes—lost their lives."

Dr. Patterson reported 17 possible lynchings were prevented in 1946—14 by officers of the law and three by other individuals.

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
December 29, 1946

1892 Was Peak Year

34K

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 28, (AP). The peak year for lynchings, Dr. Patterson told The Associated Press, was 1892, when 231 persons — 69 white and 162 negroes—lost their lives.

Dr. Patterson said the greatest number of lynchings recorded since Tuskegee began the annual compilations was in 1919, when 76 negroes and seven white persons were killed in mob actions. He listed lynching figures for the last four years as follows: 1942—5; 1943—3; 1944—2; and 1945—1.

Dr. Patterson said two indictments have been returned—one each in Mississippi and in Louisiana—but no convictions have resulted from the 1946 lynchings.

Charleston, S. C., News-Courier
December 29, 1946

Six Lynched in 1946

34K

T The News and Courier:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1946. I find according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute that there were six persons lynched in 1946.

This is five more than the number one for 1945; four more than the number two for the year 1944; three more than the number three for the year 1943; one more than the number five for the year 1942.

There are four borderline* cases which are not included in the total number of lynchings for 1946 because to date sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained.

There were at least 17 instances in which lynchings were prevented. Fourteen of these were by officers of the law and three were by persons not connected with the law. Sixteen of these instances were in the Southern states and one was in the Northern states. A total of 22 persons, 21 negroes and one white person, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the six persons lynched were negroes. The offenses charged were: stealing a saddle, 1 (two other persons later confessed this crime); stabbing a man, 1; no charge, 3 (were in automobile with one of the victims); attempting to break into a house, 1 (jailed, but later released).

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 1; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1. (Another victim of the same mob later regained consciousness and escaped in the Louisiana case).

F. D. PATTERSON
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

Birmingham, Ala., News
December 29, 1946

Lynchings During '46 Account For Six Deaths

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 28—(AP)—Six Negroes in three Southern states—the largest number in recent years—lost their lives this year as a result of lynchings, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, announced Saturday.

The information was included in the 33rd annual lynching report compiled by the institution's department of records and research.

States in which the lynchings occurred were Mississippi (1), Georgia (4), and Louisiana (1). In the latter state, another victim later regained consciousness and escaped from the same mob, Dr. Patterson said.

34K

"Peak year for lynchings," he revealed, "was 1892 following the Civil War when 231 persons — 69 white and 162 Negroes — lost their lives."

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
December 29, 1946

1946 LYNCHING RECORD

34K

Editor, The Advertiser:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1946. I find, according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, that there were six persons lynched in 1946.

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The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, one; Georgia, four; Louisiana*, one.

F. D. PATTERSON.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

*—Another victim of the same mob later regained consciousness and escaped.

Tuskegee Records Six '46 Lynchings

34K Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—(SNS) — According to the records compiled in the Deparment of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, six persons were lynched in 1946. Sun. 12-22-46

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There are 4 borderline cases which are not included in the total number of lynchings for 1946 because to date sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained.

17 PREVENTIONS

There were at least 17 instances in which lynchings were prevented. 14 of these were by officers of the law and 3 were by persons not connected with the law. 16 of these instances were in the Southern States and 1 was in the Northern States. A total of 22 persons, 21 Negroes and 1 white person, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the 6 persons lynched were Negroes. The offences charged were stealing a saddle, 1 (two other persons later confessed this crime); stabbing a man, 1; no charge, 3 (were in automobile with one of the victims); attempting to break into a house, 1 (jailed, but later released.)

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1946 LYNCHING RECORD

34K

Editor, The Advertiser:

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There are four borderline cases which are not included in the total number of lynchings for 1946 because to date sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained. Montgomery, Ala.

There were at least 17 instances in which lynchings were prevented. Fourteen of these were by officers of the law and three were by persons not connected with the law. Sixteen of these instances were in the Southern States and one was in the Northern States. A total of 22 persons, 21 Negroes and one white person, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

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The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, one; Georgia, four; Louisiana*, one. Sun. F. D. PATTERSON.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala. 12-29-46

*—Another victim of the same mob later regained consciousness and escaped.

Six Persons Lynched In 1946, Report Says

The News
Birmingham, Ala.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31—(AP)—Lynchings in 1946 claimed the lives of six Negroes in three Southern states, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskekee Institute, said in the institution's 33rd annual lynching report.

34K

It was the largest number in recent years, he added, listing one lynching in Mississippi, four in Georgia, and one in Louisiana.

There also were four "borderline cases this year involving four persons," the Tuskegee president said, but "investigations failed to produce sufficient evidence to substantiate a lynching classification."

Dr. Patterson said two indictments have been returned but no convictions have resulted from this year's lynchings.

The greatest number of lynchings recorded since Tuskegee began the annual compilations was in 1919, the report said, when 76 Negroes and seven white persons were mob victims. Tues. 12-31-46

However, 1892 was assertedly the peak year when at least "231 persons—69 white and 162 Negroes—lost their lives."

Dr. Patterson reported 17 possible lynchings were prevented in 1946—14 by officers of the law and three by other individuals.

Moultrie, Ga., Observer
December 30, 1946

Lynchings Increase In Southern States

34K

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 30—(AP)—Lynchings in 1946 claimed the lives of six Negroes in three southern states, Dr. G. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, said in the institution's 33rd annual lynching report.

It was the largest number in recent years, he added, listing one lynching in Mississippi, four in Georgia, and one in Louisiana.

There also were four "borderline cases this year involving four persons," the Tuskegee president said but "investigations failed to produce sufficient evidence to substantiate a lynching classification."

Dr. Patterson said two indictments have been returned but no convictions have resulted from this year's lynchings.

LYNCHINGS ROSE IN '46

Tuskegee Institute Reports Total of Six Killings in Year

34K

The Times Sun.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 28—A total of six lynchings, representing an increase of five over the total for 1945, took place in the year just ending, the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute reported today. 12-29-46

The 1946 figure also represents an increase of four over the number in 1944, an increase of three over 1943 and an increase of one over 1942. Four borderline cases were not included in the report for the current year because of insufficient evidence, it was stated.

The report showed that there were at least seventeen instances in which lynchings were prevented. Of these, fourteen were prevented by officers of the law and three by other persons. Sixteen of these cases occurred in Southern States and one took place in a Northern State. The preventive action saved the lives of twenty-two persons.

All those lynched in 1946, the institute reported, were Negroes. A breakdown of the States in which the lynchings occurred follows: Mississippi 1, Georgia 4, Louisiana 1. New York, N.Y.

Lynchings During '46 Account For Six Deaths

The News-Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

34K

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 28—(AP)—Six Negroes in three Southern states—the largest number in recent years—lost their lives this year as a result of lynchings, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, announced Saturday.

The information was included in the 33rd annual lynching report compiled by the institution's department of records and research.

States in which the lynchings occurred were Mississippi (1), Georgia (4), and Louisiana (1). In the latter state, another victim later regained consciousness and escaped from the same mob, Dr. Patterson said. Sun. 12-29-46

"Peak year for lynchings," he revealed, "was 1892 following the Civil War when 231 persons — 69 white and 162 Negroes — lost their lives."

Six Negroes Victims Of Lynchings In 1946, With Georgia Leading

The News-Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.
Sun. 12-29-46

34K

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"The peak year for lynchings," he revealed, "was 1892 following the Civil War when 231 persons—69 white and 162 Negroes—lost their lives."

Dr. Patterson said the greatest number of lynchings recorded since Tuskegee began the annual compilations was in 1919 when 76 Negroes and seven white persons were killed in mob actions.

He listed lynching figures for the past four years as follows: 1942—5; 1943—3; 1944—2; and 1945—1.

"There were four borderline cases this year involving four persons," the Tuskegee president said. "Investigations failed to produce sufficient evidence to substantiate a lynching classification."

There were at least 17 instances, he added, in which lynchings were prevented, 14 of them by officers of the law and three by other individuals. All but one were in Southern states and involved 21 Negroes and one white person.

Dr. Patterson said two indictments have been returned — one each in Mississippi and in Louisiana—but no convictions have resulted from the 1946 lynchings.

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6 Negro Lynchings Reported In 1946

The Advertiser Montgomery, Ala. 34K

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There were at least 17 instances, he added, in which lynchings were prevented, 14 of them by officers of the law and three by other individuals. All but one were in Southern states and involved 21 Negroes and one white person. 12-29-46 34K

Dr. Patterson said two indictments have been returned—one each in Mississippi and in Louisiana—but no convictions have resulted from the 1946 lynchings.

Six Lynchings in 1946

Times Dispatch 34K

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1946. I find, according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute, that there were six persons lynched in 1946.

This is five more than the number one for 1945; four more than the number two for the year 1944; three more than the number three for the year 1943; one more than the number five for the year 1942.

There are four borderline cases which are not included in the total number of lynchings for 1946 because to date sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained. Richmond, Va.

There were at least 17 instances in which lynchings were prevented. Fourteen of these were by officers of the law and three were by persons not connected with the law. Sixteen of these instances were in the Southern States and one was in the Northern States. A total of 22 persons, 21 Negroes and one white person, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs. Sun 12-29-46

All of the six persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: stealing a saddle, one (two other persons later confessed this crime); stabbing a man, one; no charge, three (were in automobile with one of the victims); attempting to break into a house, one (jailed, but later released).

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, one; Georgia, four; Louisiana, one.

F. D. PATTERSON,
President, Tuskegee Institute.
Tuskegee, Ala.

[Editor's Note: The foregoing is commented on editorially today, under the caption "Lynchings—True and Phony."]

Tuskegee [illegible] Lynchings

27-46

[illegible]gee, Ala.—I send you the [illegible] information concerning lynchings for the year 1946. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute that there were 6 persons lynched in 1946.

This is 6 more than the number 1 for 1945; 4 more than the number 2 for the year 1944; 3 more than the number 3 for the year 1943; 1 more than the number 5 for the year 1942. 34K

There are 4 borderline cases which are not included in the total number of lynchings for 1946 because to date sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained.

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The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 1; Georgia, 4; Louisiana*, 1.

Very truly yours,
F. D. PATTERSON, Pres.

Six Persons Lynched In Year Of 1946

The Star of Zion 34K

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1946. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute that there were 6 persons lynched in 1946. Charlotte, N.C.

This is 5 more than the number 1 for 1945; 4 more than the number 2 for the year 1944; 3 more than the number 3 for the year 1943; 1 more than the number 5 for the year 1942.

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Very truly yours,
F. D. Patterson,
President

* Another victim of the same mob later regained consciousness and escaped.

Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch
December 29, 1946

[Editor's note: The foregoing letter is commented on editorially today, under the caption "Beer and Wine—or Whisky?"]

728

Six Lynchings in 1946

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

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F. D. PATTERSON,
President, Tuskegee Institute.
Tuskegee, Ala.

[Editor's Note: The foregoing is commented on editorially today, under the caption "Lynchings—True and Phony."]

Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch
December 29, 1946

Six Lynchings Are Recorded During 1946

34K

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Dec. 28—(AP)—Six Negroes in three Southern States—the largest number in recent years—lost their lives this year as a result of lynchings, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, announced today.

The information was included in the thirty-third annual lynching report compiled by the institution's department of records and research.

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"The peak year for lynchings," he revealed, "was 1892 following the Civil War when 231 persons—69 white and 162 Negroes—lost their lives."

Dr. Patterson said the greatest number of lynchings recorded since Tuskegee began the annual compilations was in 1919 when 76 Negroes and seven white persons were killed in mob actions.

He listed lynchings for the past four years as follows: 1942, 5; 1943, 3; 1944, 2, and 1045, 1.

"There were four borderline cases this year involving four persons," the Tuskegee president said. "Investigations failed to produce sufficient evidence to substantiate a lynching classification."

There were at least 17 instances, he added, in which lynchings were prevented, 14 of them by officers of the law and three by other individuals.

Fitzgerald, Ga., Herald
January 8, 1947

SIX LYNCHINGS IN 1946 ARE REPORTED

34K

TUSKEEGEE, Ala.—According to the records compiled in the department of records and research of Tuskeegee Institute there were six persons lynched in 1946. This is five more than the number 1, for 1945; 4 more than the number 2, for the year 1944; 3 more than the number 3, for the year 1943; 1 more than the number 5 for the year 1942.

There were four borderline cases which are not included in the total number of lynchings for 1946 because to date sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained.

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All of the six persons lynched were negroes. The offences charged were: Stealing a saddle, 1 (two other persons later confessed this crime); stabbing a man, 1; no charge, 3 (were in automobile with one of the victims); attempting to break into a house, 1 (jailed but later released).

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 1; Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1.

Cartersville, Ga., Trib.-News
January 2, 1947

Lynchings Rise Again In 1946; Georgia Leads

34K

TUSKEGEE, Ala., —(AP)— Lynchings in 1946 claimed the lives of six negroes in three southern states, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee institute, said in the institution's 33rd annual lynching report.

It was the largest number in recent years, he added, listing one lynching in Mississippi, four in Georgia, and one in Louisiana.

There also were four "borderline cases this year involving four persons," the Tuskegee president said, but "investigations failed to produce sufficient evidence to substantiate a lynching classification."

Dr. Patterson said two indictments have been returned but no convictions have resulted from this year's lynchings.

The greatest number of lynchings recorded since Tuskegee began the annual compilations was in 1919, the report said, when 76 negroes and seven white persons were mob victims..

However, 1892 was asserted the peak year when at least "231 persons—69 white and 162 negroes—lost their lives."

Dr. Patterson reported 17 possible lynchings were prevented in 1946—14 by officers of the law and three by other individuals.

Lynching Looms As Habit In Dixie

Black Dispatch

34K 1946 Sat. 1-4-47

TUSKEGEE — (ANP)—Lynching and mob violence against Negroes loom as an old traditional southern custom, but took a tragic climb in 1946 over the previous four years by claiming the lives of six Negro victims.

According to official statistics on lynching, gathered annually by Tuskegee institute here, the six Negroes who died at the hands of white lynchers were given more than the number, one, for 1945; four more than the number, two, for the year 1944; three more than the number, three, for 1943 and one more than the five for 1942.

Oklahoma City, Okla.

"All of the six persons lynched were Negroes," said Dr. F. D. Patterson, Tuskegee president. "The offences charged were stealing a saddle, 1; stabbing a man, 1 and breaking into a house, 1."

Two persons later confessed stealing the saddle, but the man had already been lynched. Dr. Patterson disclosed. Three innocent persons died along with the man who stabbed a white man because they happened to be riding in the same automobile. There was insufficient evidence to jail the man who was charged with breaking into a house. He was lynched after being released. A 17-year-old boy barely escaped with his life after being beaten by the same mob.

34K 1946

According to Tuskegee's records, the lynchings occured in Mississippi, one; Georgia, four; and Louisiana, one. Four borderline cases, which indicate lynch violence but lack sufficient evidence to mark them as lynching, are also on Tuskegee's record for 1946.

Of the 17 instances in which lynchings were prevented, 16 were in southers states, with law enforcement officials being credited with saving the would-be victim in 14 of the 17 cases reported. In the other three instances, citizens were credited with blocking mob violence. A total of 22 persons, 21 Negroes and one white, was saved from death at the hands of lynchers, Tuskegee's records reveal.

34K

Lynch Toll 6 For 1946

Louisiana Weekly

34K New Orleans, La.

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Two persons later confessed stealing the saddle, but the man had already been lynched, Dr. Patterson disclosed. Three innocent persons died along with the man who stabbed a white man because they happened to be riding in the same automobile. There was insufficient evidence to jail the man who was charged with breaking into a house. He was lynched after being released. A 17-year-old boy barely escaped with his life after being beaten by the same mob.

34K

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34K 1946

Official U.S. Lynch Total Six For Year 1946

Michigan Chronicle
Detroit, Michigan

34K ~~Sat. 1-4-47~~

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana teamed during 1946 to give the United States its worst lynching record in four years.

A report, released by Tuskegee Institute last week and based on its Department of Records and Research findings, puts the official number of lynchings for the year at six—all Negroes. Of the total, four persons were lynched in Georgia and one each in Mississippi and Louisiana (another intended victim of the Louisiana mob regained consciousness and escaped).

This year's total is five more than the number for 1945; four more than for 1944; three more than for 1943 and one more than for 1942.

17 Lynchings Prevented

Four borderline cases are not included in the total number of lynchings for 1946 because to date sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained.

There were at least 17 instances in which lynchings were prevented. Fourteen of these were by officers of the law and three were by persons not connected with the law. Sixteen of these instances were in southern states and one was in the North. A total of 22 persons—21 Negroes and one white person—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of the six persons lynched during 1946 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: stealing a saddle, 1 (two other persons later confessed this crime); stabbing a man, 1; no charge, 3 (were in automobile with one of the victims); attempting to break into a house, 1 (jailed, but later released and mobbed).

New Lynch Record Says 120 In 1946

Black Dispatch

34K Edi.

CHICAGO — (ANP) —No less than 120 persons were lynched in the United States in 1946. Oklahoma City, Okla.

That is the finding of Joseph Johnson, a young local research specialist, who bases his findings on a new definition of lynching. Johnson took issue in his 1946 lynch report with Tuskegee institute's reported six lynchings for last year as well as with the NAACP's report of eight for 1946.

Sat. 3-22-47

"Tuskegee report keeps to the traditional idea as to what is a lynching (a mob that kills a person or persons)," Johnson said, while "the NAACP breaks with the traditional idea to some extent" by admitting "there is much evidence pointing to the fact there actually have been many more."

Johnson, who explained that neither Tuskegee nor the NAACP deliberately withheld the actual number of persons lynched last year, gave two reasons why a larger number of lynchings was not reported. "One reason is that the number of 'concealed' lynchings is unknown," he said, and "the other reason is that the prevailing idea as to what constitutes a lynching in incorrect in many important respects."

Stressing that to "lynch does not necessarily mean to kill,' the research specialist said lynching technique has changed from 1933 to the present. He defied lynching as "organized and directed extra-legal and semi-official violence by a portion, sometimes the majority, of the members of the social community, acting under the influence and in accordance with the property interest of the southern poll-taxers and big industrialists.

34K Edi. 1946

"Any act or acts no matter what the nature that are committed by a group so organized and directed is a lynching," Johnson declared. "For example, if a person was whipped, beaten, shot, wounded; killed—shot, hanged, burned, cut, drowned, castrated, and raped by a group so organized and directed such acts were lynchings."

Vigilantims, directed against Jews and trade unionists, is also lynching. "Lynching, therefore, although directed mainly against the Negro people, is not exclusively a Negro problem," he said.

¶ Alabama's Tuskegee Institute reported six U.S. lynchings in 1946—an increase of five over 1945.

Six Lynch Deaths Listed for 1946 By Tuskegee Institute

The Fla. Tattler
Jacksonville, Fla.

34K ~~Sat.~~ 2-1-47

Tuskegee Institute, long recognized recorder of lynchings in the United States, listed six definite lynch deaths for 1946 in its end-of-the-year report from the Institute's President F. D. Patterson.

"There are four borderline cases which are not included in the total number of lynchings for 1946 because to date sufficient evidence concerning them has not been obtained," Dr. Patterson reported.

Staets in which the listed lynching deaths occurred are Georgia, 4; Louisiana, 1; and Mississippi, 1.

34L 1946

China

7405

Jennings Perry

PM New York, N.Y. Wed. 1-1-47

Stranger Than Fiction

1946 [illegible] China

JACKSON, TENN.

When you read that ten thousand Chinese march in the streets of Peiping yelling "beasts" at Americans, it makes you wonder, doesn't it? It does me. It's too familiar.

Wed

Perry

Ten thousand of anybody whose passion flows in the streets is a mob. I know mobs, I've seen them. The mobs I've seen have been white mobs, inflamed by race feeling. Almost always the inflammation has been from an attack or an alleged attack upon a white woman.

In Peiping the pattern is the same, but the colors are askew: The woman was Chinese. The alleged attacker was white—an American Marine, The mob swirled through the streets shouting invectives and chalking obscenities on American trucks and jeeps. That is the pattern, too. At Columbia, Tenn., last Spring the white mob chalked threats even on the coffins in a Negro undertaking establishment.

1-1-47

In Columbia the Negroes were warned to stay in their homes out of sight. In Peiping the Chinese military warned Americans in uniform to stay in their barracks "until the situation quieted." Other Americans (over here) can muse long over this paradox—that a white skin could become a liability.

It is patent that there was more behind the temper of the Peiping mob than the nature of the incident that produced it. There was a feeling that has been building up since our friendly and supposedly fraternal occupation of areas of China. I don't know what the Chinese word for "uppity" is. But if it wasn't chalked on our trucks and jeeps, I'm sure it was muttered in the streets. There have been instances in which the behavior of some of our troops has been more masterful than fraternal, and such conduct on the part of youngish men conditioned by the color line of their home environment was not to have been unexpected. Still it is a little upsetting to realize that the physical presence and social attitudes of brave Americans have come to be so actively resented by a people—of ancient culture, it is true—who cannot build automobiles or have blue eyes. The musical extravaganzas have not prepared us for that.

I would not want to invest too much in a comparison of the color-line in Peiping and the color-line in, say, Atlanta, and the well-known "economic factor" turns up, moreover, in both situations. A lot of privileged Chinese suspect that American goods and services are about to undersell them, and fear for their long-held monopolies. White is the color of competition and they would rather not face it.

Most Americans, I think, will be more hurt than angered by the Peiping demonstration. After all, the Chinese are our friends and allies. We saved them from the Japs when they could not save themselves. We fought, bled and died with them in the common cause.

I know this kind of thinking—my own nephew tried to fly the hump one time too many—and it is good. But we would be displaying a Shangri-la mentality of our own not to understand that in China the gods are yellow, not white.

PM

It was not a lynch mob in Peiping because there was no lynching. That was the difference—that, and the color of the mob and the color of the man—our man who was its quarry. The difference does not quite overshadow the similarity, and the margin is enough to make us ponder the portent.

New York, N.Y.

Accustomed as we are to our one-way concept of race relations, how would we prop our skies if, some day, the Chinese who say they are friendly to Americans should be measured by their own people with that artfully devastating question, "Yes, but would you want your daughter to marry one?"

Wed. 1-1-47

Our intelligence might survive it, but could our pride?

7406

Fla. Governor Denies Lynch Okay, Calls Sheriff 'Dumb' But Innocent

Chicago Defender, Illinois

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

349

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — The lynching of a 19-year-old Negro youth last Fall continues to stare Florida's Gov. Millard Caldwell in the face. Sat 2-23-46

The body of the mob victim, Jesse James Payne, lies "a mouldering in the grave" but friends of law and order are determined that the state's chief executive shall not forget the role he played in a whitewash of the crime.

First Time Magazine and now Collier's have attacked the governor for purported remarks which indicated that he approved of mob violence.

Denies Magazine Charges

The Collier's episode was revealed last Thursday. At that time Governor Caldwell stated that the publisher of the widely-read periodical had wired him in reply to his protest against an editorial carried in the columns of the magazine last week, that it has stopped "collateral publicity" on the Payne lynch question.

The governor charged that the Collier's Magazine editorial contained "false, libelous and damaging statements"

Caldwell wired William L. Chenery, the magazine's publisher, last Wednesday that he, the governor, had seen advance proofs of an editorial in the forthcoming issue of the publication which "falsely quotes me and draws false inferences" from a statement he made on the slaying of the youth.

Editorial Published

He demanded that Collier's "not publish the false statements and immediately withdraw from all newspapers and others to whom you sent copies of editorial permission to publish, quote or comment on it."

But the editorial was published. It appeared in Collier's Magazine, issue of February 23, which was available on newsstands last week end.

Under the caption of "Two Governors on Race Problems," it lauded Gov. R. G. Cherry of North Carolina for commuting to life imprisonment the death sentence of a Negro boy who allegedly raped a white woman. In the same editorial Governor Caldwell was pointedly criticized for remarks attributed to him which would obviously put him in the class of a mobster.

Flays Governor

The Collier's comment read:

"About a year ago, a fourteen-year-old Negro broke into a Wilmington, N. C., house, raped a pregnant woman, was caught next day, confessed, and was sentenced to death. Recently Gov. R. G. Cherry of North Carolina commuted the colored boy to life imprisonment, remarking in part:

"'~~The crimes are revolting, but a part of the blame~~ . . . arises from the neglect of the state and society to provide a better environment . . . Our public schools, equipped with capable teachers . . . (and) an effective compulsory attendance law, would do much to correct delinquency among all races.'"

Continuing, the editor said: "In Florida a few months ago, a Negro under indictment for attempted rape was snatched from jail by a mob and shot to death. Gov. Millard Caldwell of Florida said he didn't consider this a lynching. He went on to opine that the mob had saved courts, etc., considerable trouble and added:

Governor Quoted

"'The ordeal of bringing a young and innocent victim of rape into open court and subjecting her to detailed cross-examination could easily be as great an injury as the original crime. This fact probably accounts for a number of killings which might otherwise be avoided.'"

In conclusion, Collier's asserted: "Thus, Cherry of North Carolina expresses the forward-looking view of these matters, while Caldwell of Florida expresses the old, narrow view which has been about as harmful to Southern white people as to Southern Negroes. We can only congratulate North Carolina on its governor, and hope that Florida may have similar gubernatorial good luck before long."

Sat 2-23-46

A strong denial that Governor Caldwell approved the lynching of Payne was made to the Defender Saturday by John Wiggington, the governor's executive secretary.

Statement Called Unjust

He said that Time Magazine had accused Caldwell of condoning mob violence in an early January issue but had retracted its story after complaint of its "injustice" in the matter had been made by the governor.

He charged: "Collier's has taken up where Time left off. It is trying to put the governor in a bad light.

"The fact that he had a special grand jury convened, sent a special investigator from his office, and rebuked the sheriff of Madison County (where lynching took place) of dumbness and negligence of duty in connection with the lynching, surely proves that he did not condone the lynching of the Negro."

Sheriff Not Ousted

When asked by the Defender why Governor Caldwell did not remove the sheriff from office for permitting the mob to get into the jail at Madison and remove Payne, Wittington said: "The governor's position in that regard has been previously expressed. It was his opinion that nothing had been discovered to link the sheriff with the lynching."

The governor's secretary further explained: "He (the sheriff) is just a dumb public servant. But since the people had elected him and there was no proof offered that he was involved in the slaying of the Negro, he certainly could be charged with nothing more than inefficiency and negligence which would not give the governor the right to remove him from office."

Wittington offered Caldwell's public rebuke of the sheriff as evidence of the "governor's feeling" in the matter.

Youth Dragged From Jail

Payne was lynched at Madison early in October for an alleged attempt attack upon the five-year-old niece of Sheriff Lonnie Davis of that county, during the summer.

The youth had been held at the state prison in Raiford, pending arraignment and trial. He was returned to Madison to be arraigned in October and pleaded innocent to the charges. His case was set for trial on October 16.

A mob entered the "unguarded and unlocked" jail on the night of October 10 or early morning of October 11, quietly removed the boy, and shot him to death.

Sheriff Watches Mob

His body was found on a highway about seven miles from Madison after dawn. Sat 2-23-46

Sheriff Davis, who lived adjacent to the jail, is said to have been standing at a window in his nightshirt watching the mob when it removed the hapless youth to a waiting automobile.

Owners of cars in the lynch procession are believed to be known to the sheriff.

DIXIE TANGLES WITH DICTIONARY

Chicago Defender

When Is Lynching Not Lynching?

Chicago, Ill.

349

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — When is a lynching not a lynching?

In the state of Florida, according to Gov. Millard Caldwell, the answer is "Always."

Even though a Negro victim was spirited out of the county jail by a white mob, taken out into the woods and riddled with shotgun slugs, "the crime did not come within any recognized definition of lynching," stoutly maintained the governor this week.

(Webster's New International Dictionary defines the verb "lynch" as follows: "To inflict punishment, especially death, upon, without the forms of law, as when a mob captures and hangs a suspected person.")

Writing to R. B. Eleazer of the Methodist church general board of education in Nashville, who was preparing a 1945 report on lynching for the Encyclopedia Brittanica, Governor Caldwell tried to explain his way out of his failure to remove Sherill Lonnie T. Davis from office. It was Sheriff Davis who put the Negro victim, Jesse James Payne, in an unguarded jail cell after he was arrested on charges of raping a five-year-old girl. Payne was taken to the jail by a circuitous route because of lynch threats but left unguarded after he got there.

Sheriff Davis, a relative of the girl supposed to be the rape victim, pleaded after the Negro's riddled body was found that he knew nothing except that Payne was removed from the jail and shot. Sat 1-5-46

The governor later denounced Davis who "in this case has proven his unfitness for office. He was nevertheless the choice of the people. Stupidity and ineptitude are not sufficient groups for removal of an elected official by the governor."

Asked by Eleazer to explain his statement, the governor declared:

"Whether or not the killing was a lynching must depend upon one's definition of that term. My personal opinion is that the crime did not come within any recognized definition of lynching," the governor said in his letter to Eleazer.

He said "the ordeal of bringing a young and innocent victim of rape into open court and subjecting her to detailed cross-examination by defense counsel could easily be as great an injury as the original crime.

"This fact probably accounts for a number of killings or lynchings which might otherwise be avoided," the letter said. "Society has not found a solution to this problem.

"My comment on the case is in line with my policy of holding the citizens of a county responsible for the officials they elect to office.

"It is my intention to awaken a sense of civic responsibility in our citizens. To that end, I have refused to do their work for them on the theory that when they have found they must act or take the consequences they will act.

"Paternalism softens and deadens civic responsibility and it is my intention to stimulate the people to action and make democracy work."

LYNCH TOLL SOARS TO 12 SINCE MONROE SLAUGHTER

The Defender
Chicago, Ill. Sat. 8-31-46

349

With the murder of two Texas veterans last week, surrounded by the stench of lynching, the toll of mob murders since the infamous Monroe, Ga., quadruple lynching little more than a month ago, soared to a certain 12, and probably more.

Police have claimed the latest two outbreaks in Marshall, Texas, have no relation to mob action. The bodies of the two victims, however, one with his throat slashed, the other marked with signs of strangulation and heavy blows seem to tell a different story.

Meanwhile, the old picture of suppression of crime, when the victim is a Negro, gave rise to the belief that many more unknown black bodies may be lying in the swamps, bayous, and open fields of a seething southland.

In the two recent Texas murders, it is believed local law officers may be in conspiracy with the lynchers. In the death of one, Richard F. Gorden, marks on the road near where he was found indicated the veteran was dragged from the rear of an automobile.

None of the recent wave of terror slayings have been exposed promptly to the public eye. In almost every case there was a delay, sufficient to set the scene, making arrests, trial, and justice almost a farcical impossibility.

FLA. GOVERNOR LOSES SUIT

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat [illegible]

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Federal Judge [illegible] threw out of court Governor Millard Caldwell's half-million dollar suit against Collier's magazine for libel this week and ruled that the magazine editorial about which the Governor complained was a "privileged comment" on Caldwell's statement concerning the slaying of Jesse Jones, who was taken from the Medicon County jail and shot last fall while awaiting trial on charges of attempted rape.

17-year-old Arkansan said to have been lynched in March

Los Angeles Tribune, Los Angeles Cal.

TOLEDO, O.—A 17-year-old Negro boy, Walter Reed, was beaten and shot to death in Augusta, Ark., last March 23, the boy's uncle, Robert Goodman, disclosed last week in Toledo, O.

34X

Goodman said his nephew worked as a sharecropper with his father on the property of Conner Stacy, an Augusta landowner. The boy worked every other night in addition to every day, so that he was in the fields at least 16 hours every other day, he said.

When the boy complained to Stacy, the landowner made a report to the deputy sheriff of McCrory county who made his home with the Stacys, Goodman said. The sheriff then threatened to beat Reed if he should try to leave the farm and enter the armed forces. Sat. 5-11-46

Goodman said it had not occurred to his nephew to try such an escape, but, given the idea, he applied for enlistment in the Navy. Learning of the application, the sheriff reportedly hurried to the field where the boy was plowing, beat him, then took him in custody and presumably started for the McCrory county jail. Calif.

However, young Reed never reached the jail, Goodman said. The sheriff and his friends attacked him en route, and, when Reed tried to run, shot him in the back. Then the peace officer returned to the boy's family and informed them that he had been arrested for horse-stealing.

The sheriff hid Reed's body under a sawdust pile till the next morning, when he returned to throw it into a ditch filled 30-feet deep with water, according to Goodman. Then he told the Reeds that Walter had run into the river while attempting an escape and had been shot. To substantiate the story, said Goodman, the cartridge from the fatal bullet was "planted" on the river bank and the family refused permission to recover the boy's body. Sat. 9-11-46

Goodman said he learned the story after the Reed family sent him an appeal for help. When he went to Augusta, he was warned not to investigate his nephew's death, "for his own health". But he found the corpse after overhearing two women who knew it lay in the water-filled ditch.

When local authorities learned of his discovery, they held him in jail on the charge that he had failed to obtain permission to recover Reed's body, Goodman further alleged.

COLLIERS WINS IN COURT

Federal Judge Dismisses Libel Suit of Florida Governor

Times

34X

GAINESVILLE, Fla., June 14 (AP)—Federal Judge A. V. Long today dismissed the $500,000 libel suit of Gov. Millard L. Caldwell against Colliers Magazine which grew out of an editorial discussing the Governor's statements concerning the death of a Negro held on a rape charge. St. Fla.

"It appears from the complaint that the publication complained of was privileged," the judge's order stated. New York

The case arose as an aftermath of the killing of James Jesse Payne, who was taken from the Madison, Fla., jail and shot. The Governor asked for a special grand jury investigation as to whether the Sheriff had been negligent.

GOVERNOR SUES OVER EDITORIAL

Petersburg Courier

Petersburg, Pa.

Sat 3-9-46

MIAMI, Fla.—Gov. Millard Caldwell of Florida said last Thursday that he will file a libel suit against Collier's Magazine for a Feb. 23 editorial which he claimed quoted him falsely in connection with the killing, at Madison, Fla., Oct. 11 of Jesse Payne, who was taken from an unguarded jail and shot while under indictment on charges of the attempted rape of a five-year-old white girl.

34X

The Governor has indicated that should he win, the proceeds of the libel suit would be contributed to Florida A.&M. College at Tallahassee.

The article in question compared Caldwell's attitude with that of Governor Cherry of North Carolina who recently commuted to life imprisonment a Negro convicted and sentenced to death on the charges of having raped a pregnant white woman.

PROTESTED IN ADVANCE

Caldwell had protested in advance against publication of the editorial, proofs of which he had seen. Sat 3-9-46

The Chief Executive also denied that he recently told an Encyclopedia Britanica representative that the snatching and killing of a Negro by a mob was not lynching. He said that he stated the death of James Payne, in Madison, was not a lynching because there was no mob or violence.

THE LIVING SOUTH

Informer 6-29-46-Sat.

By HAROLD PREECE

Houston, Texas

Florida Brought To Judgment

Sidel

Now I reckon when the Devil got up the breed called the North Florida lyncher that he crossed the ugliest old alligator in the Swanee River bottoms with the most poisonous old water moccasin ever drug out of a Madison County mudhole. And I reckon that the offspring kind of looked like Sheriff Lonnie Davis of Madison or Constable Phil Goff of Live Oak, over in the next county.

God made man in His image and made man to glorify Him in his works. But the Devil, who's always out to mock the Lord, made the North Florida lyncher—made him to mock the image of God by making a lyncher look like a man.

And then the Devil sometimes mocked God's eternal law of "thou shalt not kill" by giving the lyncher a star which made him look like somebody out to enforce that law which God wrote on the heart of man by driving out Cain for killing his brother, Abel. Informer

I reckon after reading a brave little pamphlet, "Lynchings in Florida—1943-45," sent to me by Prof. Harry T. Moore, president of the state conference of the NAACP, that the Cain tribe is running North Florida. I'm thinking that the star—the mark of office—is also the mark of Cain for Sheriff Davis and Constable Goff. Houston, Texas

I'm sorry that Prof. Moore and the other courageous colored Floridians who put out the pamphlet didn't add to the list Police Chief Tom Crews of Branford who helped lynch Sam McFadden, last October 29. Branford is in Swanee County whose county seat is Live Oak. Madison, county seat of Madison County, is just a few miles away. They are all Cain towns and I guess that we know now what land of Nod was that old Cain found as a hiding place. The land of Nod must have been North Florida. 6-29-46

I'm sorry, too, that the pamphlet lists only three of the more than a dozen lynchings that took place in North Florida from 1943 to 1945. But the stories of these three lynchings make the little pamphlet great literature which generations of fair-minded Southerners will read in the coming New South of freedom and equality. I'd like to urge my readers to write Prof. Moore at Box 4, Mims, Florida, asking for a copy of the pamphlet.

CELLOS HARRISON

The book starts out by telling about the lynching of Cellos Harrison of Marianna, Florida by four masked men who took him from the jail in July, 1943. "The highest court of our state," says a letter from Prof. Moore to the then governor and now senator-elect Spessard L. Holland, reproduced in the pamphlet," already had twice reversed Harrison's sentence on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence to sustain the convictions. Each time, Harrison was convicted by the lower court on the basis of a confession which the prisoner declared was obtained under duress.

"Moreover, we question the behavior of the jailer on the night that Harrison was lynched. On a previous occasion, we understand, it had been necessary to remove Harrison to the Tallahassee jail, because mob violence was feared. Why, then, was the jailer so willing and so quick to open the jail at that hour of the night to four strange masked men?"

WILLIE JAMES HOWARD

Then the next episode in the grim tale of "justice" in North Florida is the lynching of 15-year old Willie James Howard of Live Oak on January 2, 1944. I'm going to give you more details from the pamphlet on this murder of a Florida child, two weeks from now. But one of the Cain men implicated in it is Constable Goff who had just killed a Negro employee of the city waterworks when I went to Live Oak, last November, to investigate the lynching of Sam McFadden.

The third and final episode gives us, for the first time, the real facts in the lynching of Jesse James Payne at Madison on October 1. You know the derned lie that Sheriff Lonnie Davis put out at the time when he left the Madison County jail door open for the lynchers—that Mr. Payne had tried to "attack" a five-year old white girl.

Actually, according to the pamphlet, Mr. Payne was sharecropping for Sheriff Davis' friend, D. L. Goodwin. He needed money to buy medicine for his three-months old baby and to pay those who had been helping him with the crop. When Goodwin, in typical landlord style, refused him any cash, Mr. Payne, desperate for funds, had no choice but to turn his crop over to the government.

He was kidnapped while he and his family were visiting relatives who sharecropped on the farm of Arch Davis, father-in-law of Goodwin and father of Sheriff Davis. Three of the Cain men—Goodwin and his two sons—drove up, forced him into a car, and that was the beginning of the end for a good American who had committed the unpardonable crimes of being black and being poor.

"Before we left Madison County," says an affidavit by Mr. Payne's wife, mother, and sister, published in the pamphlet, "Mr. Goodwin had gotten a government check for Lucy Payne (mother of the murder victim) from her son in the army. Goodwin showed it to the mother, but he said he was going to keep it. Later we received the check by mail. We still have chickens and other property on the Goodwin farm that we have not been able to get. Mr. Goodwin also has Jesse's share of the crops mentioned above."

They kill men to steal from them—that is the long and the short of lynching. I know who should have been hung up there in Madison County. But I know that they hanged the wrong man when they hanged Jesse James Payne.

Reg'nal Council Discusses "New Style" Lynching

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Sun. 11-21-46

Mass Murders Cited To Show Rising Violence

34X

The executive committee of the Southern Regional council at its recent meeting here devoted some time to the changing form of lynchinng technique. Reports which were studied revealed that lawless elements in the south in order to get around the demand for a federal anti-lynching bill were going in for a new type of murder.

Some eight or ten cases were cited which showed that what amounted to mass murders had been passed off as something other than a lynching technique. Reports which ed there had been a dozen or more of these murders which the semi-official lynching statistics which are kept at Tuskegee had hesitated to class as lynchings because they were highly mobile, smaller groups than the lynching bee as of old.

CONSCIOUS OF BLOT Daily World

The better elements in the southern population and its leaders have become very conscious of the blot of lynching because of its world-wide condemnation. The council felt however, that people should become increasingly aware of the rising tide of irresponsible violence which is appearing in the south at the same time federal controls are relaxed. The tendency of petty local officers who, encouraged by the trend of recent elections such as that of Gene Talmadge, are inclined to take the law into their own hands, was noted. Atlanta, Ga.

Among those present at the meeting were Father McNamara, Atty. Hass, Gelman of the CIO, Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Carter Wesley Houston and President Clement of Atlanta university. Sun. 11-21-46

7407

pull

Governor Disputes Dictionary On Definition Of Lynching

The Journal & Guide 1-13-46
Norfolk, Va.

34L

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—(ANP)—Gov. Millard Caldwell challenged Webster's dictionary on the definition of "lynching" here last week in denying that Jesse James Payne, a Negro farmhand, was lynched last year.

Asked by R. E. Eleazer of the Methodist Church General Board of Education, Nashville, about Payne's murder, Caldwell said.

"Whether or not the killing of Jesse James Payne was a lynching must depend upon one's definition of that term. My personal opinion is that the crime did not come within any recognized definition of lynching." 1-12-46

Eleazer explained to the governor that he made the inquiry because he had been asked to prepare a 1945 report for the Encyclopaedia year book. According to Webster's New International dictionary, the verb "lynch" means "to inflict punishment, especially death, upon, without the forms of law, as when a mob captures and hangs a suspected person."

LYNCHED BY MOB

Payne was removed from his jail cell by a mob and shot to death after being charged with raping a five-year-old white girl. He was not convicted of any crime.

Gov. Caldwell explained that he did not take action to suspend Sheriff Lonnie T. Davis, charged with leaving the jail unguarded, because "he was nevertheless the choice of the people. Stupidity and ineptitude are not sufficient grounds for removal of an elected official by the governor," he said.

Here is how Gov. Caldwell feels about such cases:

"The ordeal of bringing a young and innocent victim of rape into open court and subjecting her to detailed cross-examination by defense counsel could easily be as great an injury as the original," he told Eleazer. 1-12-46

"This fact probably accounts for a number of killings or lynchings which might otherwise be avoided," the governor continued. "Society has not found a solution to this problem.

"My comment on the case in which you are interested is in line with my policy of holding the citizens of a county responsible for the officials they elect to office.

"It is my inention to awaken a sense of civic responsibility in our citizens. To that end, I have refused to do their work for them on the theory that, when they have found they must act or take the consequences, they will act."

He claimed that he wants the people "to awaken to a sense of civil responsibility" in order to stimulate them "to action and make democracy work."

BEHIND The HEADLINES.

Norfolk Va.
Journal and Guide

By ALBERT L. HINTON

Said The Governor of North Carolina And the Governor of Florida . . .

THE TALE is hoary with age and has become so embellished by constant repetition that no one knows exactly how it appeared in its original form. But, according to the legend, the Governor of North Carolina, in a conversation with the Governor of South Carolina—or vice versa—once uttered these profound and deeply prophetic words: "It's a long time between drinks."

MR. HINTON

The fine point of distinction as to who told who what, is not particularly important except that, in the present circumstances, the Governor of the Tar Heel State has again broken into the news in a big way.

NORFOLK, Va.

34L

It all happened when the Honorable R. Gregg Cherry commuted to life imprisonment a death sentence which an all-white trial jury in Wilmington, N. C., had imposed upon Ernest Brooks, a 14-year-old colored boy, after finding him guilty of having allegedly raped a woman after breaking into her home. Both of the offenses are punishable by death in North Carolina.

Said Governor Cherry in a prepared statement in explanation of his unprecedented stand: 1-10-46

"The crimes are revolting, but a part of the blame . . . arises from the neglect of the state and society to provide a better environment . . . . Our public schools equipped with capable teachers . . . . (and) an effective compulsory-attendance law, would do much to correct delinquency among all races."

• The statement is healthy enough to stand alone and, therefore, needs no additional comment. But it should be mentioned in passing, that there was not one peep of protest from the white populace of the Old North State.

About the same time, down in Tallahassee, Fla., the Governor of Florida, the Hon. Millard Caldwell, was issuing another statement in connection with a similar problem. Some three months previously one Jesse James Payne, a Negro Floridian, under indictment for attempted rape of a five-year-old girl, had been taken by a mob from an unguarded jail and shot to death.

34L

Governor Caldwell had been asked whether or not be regarded this "trifling" incident as a lynching. His Excellency was speaking:

"I do not consider this a lynching within the real meaning of the term. In fact, this shooting saved a lot of trouble. . . . The ordeal of bringing a young innocent victim of rape into open court and subjecting her to detailed cross-examination could easily be as great an injury as the original crime. This fact probably accounts for a number of killings which might otherwise be avoided."

I recall now that Gov. Caldwell issued another statement at that time. Said he: "I can see only chaos in divorcing the primaries from state law, but I recognize the serious situation that would result from permitting Negroes to vote unrestricted in the primaries." 1-19-46

It was down in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., that one Sheriff Walter Clark had to be called to account for his propensity in arresting Negro longshoremen on charges of vagrancy, whom he was sure could pay their fines. The sheriff set himself up as judge, jury and executioner in these cases and had a swell time until the militant workers Defense League spearheaded a movement to secure a federal indictment against him. All of this happened in Florida.

The Time

THE SOUTH

Two Governors

New York, N.Y.

34L

In North Carolina, the crimes of murder, arson, burglary and rape are punishable by death. Fourteen-year-old Negro Ernest Brooks committed two of them. One night a year ago he broke into a Wilmington home, raped a woman who was eight months pregnant. Caught the next day, Negro Brooks confessed, was sentenced to death. 1-9-46

Last week North Carolina's Governor R. Gregg Cherry commuted the sentence to life imprisonment. Said he, in a statement rare for a Southern governor: "The crimes are revolting, but a part of the blame . . . arises from the neglect of the State and society to provide a better environment. . . . Our public schools, equipped with capable teachers . . . [and] an effective compulsory-attendance law, would do much to correct delinquency among all races." Rarer still, in all North Carolina there was no outcry.

In Tallahassee, Florida's Governor Millard Caldwell had his own say about a similar problem. Three months ago a Negro named Jesse James Payne, under indictment for attempted rape of a five-year-old girl, had been taken from an unguarded jail and shot to death by a mob. Asked whether he considered this a lynching, Governor Caldwell replied that he did not. 1-7-46

He then condoned the shooting by saying that it saved a lot of trouble. Said he: "The ordeal of bringing a young and innocent victim of rape into open court and subjecting her to detailed cross-examination could easily be as great an injury as the original crime. This fact probably accounts for a number of killings which might otherwise be avoided." N.Y.

Lynching?—Heck No, Governor Says

The People's Voice
New York, N.Y.

34L

In a last courageous stand to regain ground lost in the Civil War, and in a desperate attack against the principles of the Union which are slowly seeping into his state, Governor Millard Campbell of Florida this week resorted to a challenge to Webster's dictionary on the definition of "lynching" last week in a denial that Jesse James Payne, a Negro farmhand, was lynched last year. 1-12-46

Stating that Webster's New International Dictionary defines the word "lynch" as ". . . to inflict punishment, especially death, upon, without the form of law, as when a mob captures and hangs a suspected person . . ." Caldwell justified the removal of Payne from his jail cell by a mob and his ensuing death by shooting by explaining ". . . the ordeal of bringing a young and innocent victim of rape into open court, could easily be as great an injury as the original crime . . ."

Florida Governor Sues Collier's For Libel

[illegible]

34L

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., March 21—(AP)—Alleging that harm done him by an editorial in Collier's magazine "will continue against him throughout the remainder of his life," Gov. Caldwell today filed a libel suit against publishers of the weekly asking $500,000 damages.

The bill of complaint, filed in the U. S. District Court here, alleges that an editorial on the killing of a Negro awaiting trial on charges of attempted rape "was maliciously and wickedly done with the intent of causing ridicule and contempt to be casts upon" Caldwell. Ala.

The comment, which appeared in the Feb. 23 issue of Collier's, dealt with the governor's statements regarding the death of Jesse James Payne, Negro, who was taken from an unguarded Madison County Jail and shot while under indictment on charges of attempting to rape a 5-year-old white girl. Thur. 3-21-46

Caldwell has announced that any proceeds from the suit will go to the state-operated agricultural and mechanical college for Negroes. Julius F. Parker, member of the law firm of Parker & Foster which is handling the litigation, said the governor was paying expenses of the suit from his own pocket and that state funds were not being used. Thur. 3-21-46

Governor Disputes Lynching Definition

The Memphis World
Memphis Tenn.

34L

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—(ANP)—Gov. Millard Caldwell challenged Webster's dictionary on the definition of "lynching" here last week in denying that Jesse James Payne, a Negro farmhand, was lynched last year.

Asked by R. E. Eleazer of the Methodist Church General Board of Education, Nashville, about Payne's murder, Caldwell said:

"Whether or not the killing of Jesse James Payne was a lynching must depend upon one's definition of that term. My personal opinion is that the crime did not come within any recognition definition of lynching." 1-21-46

Eleazor explained to the governor that he made the inquiry because he had been asked to prepare a 1945 report for the Encyclopedia yearbook. According to Webster's New International dictionary, the verb 'lynch' means "to inflict punishment, especially death, upon, without the forms of law, as when a mob captures and hangs a suspected person" 1-21-46

Payne was removed from his jail cell by a mob and shot to death after being charged with a raping a five-year-old white girl. He was not convicted of any crime.

Gov. Caldwell explained that he did not take action to suspend Sheriff Lonnie T. Davis, charged with leaving the jail unguarded.

Fla. Governor Sues Mag On Lynch Story

Chicago Defender
Ill

34L

NEW YORK—Gov. Millard Caldwell of Florida this week opened a libel suit against Collier's Magazine for its report on his attitude toward the lynching of a Florida Negro. 3-[illegible]-46

Caldwell's suit will be based on an editorial which appeared in the Feb. 23 issue of the magazine which Caldwell claims contained "libelous, defammatory and false" statements about his attitude on the lynching. Sat.

If he gains any damages, Caldwell said, they will go to Florida A. and M. College for Negroes. The amount of damages sought will be left to the descretion of his attorneys.

SOUTH CAROLINA LYNCHING REPORTED BY 'WITNESS' HERE

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Sun 2-24-46

A responsible South Carolina Citizen who arrived in Atlanta Friday said that he and his wife witnessed the lynching of a Negro man at Elko, South Carolina, while passing through the small village Thursday morning around 9:30 o'clock.

The South Carolinian, who asked that his name not be used in connection with a news story, said that he was driving from Charleston to Augusta when forced to slow down by a large crowd gathered before a railroad shack to the left of the highway. In the midst of the crowd and suspended by the neck on a rope from what appeared to be an improvised two-by-four scaffold at the top of the shack was a well dressed Negro man, it was stated. About 40 white persons, mostly men, stood under the hanged man, and about 50 feet away stood about a dozen Negroes, all women and children, who appeared in a frightened state, the informant noted.

VICTIM IN THIRTIES

The lynched man appeared to be in his thirties and was tall and well proportioned in build, the witness estimated.

Sun 2-24-46

The informant said he would have stopped at the scene, but for his wife who reasoned that since no Negro men were there, his presence might cause more trouble and jeopardy to his life.

Attempts to verify the lynching from nearby South Carolina cities failed Friday, but the New York national office of the NAACP was notified and urged to make an immediate investigation.

The South Carolinian, who holds a responsible position in his native city, said he was positive that he saw a Negro man hanging before the throng in Elko.

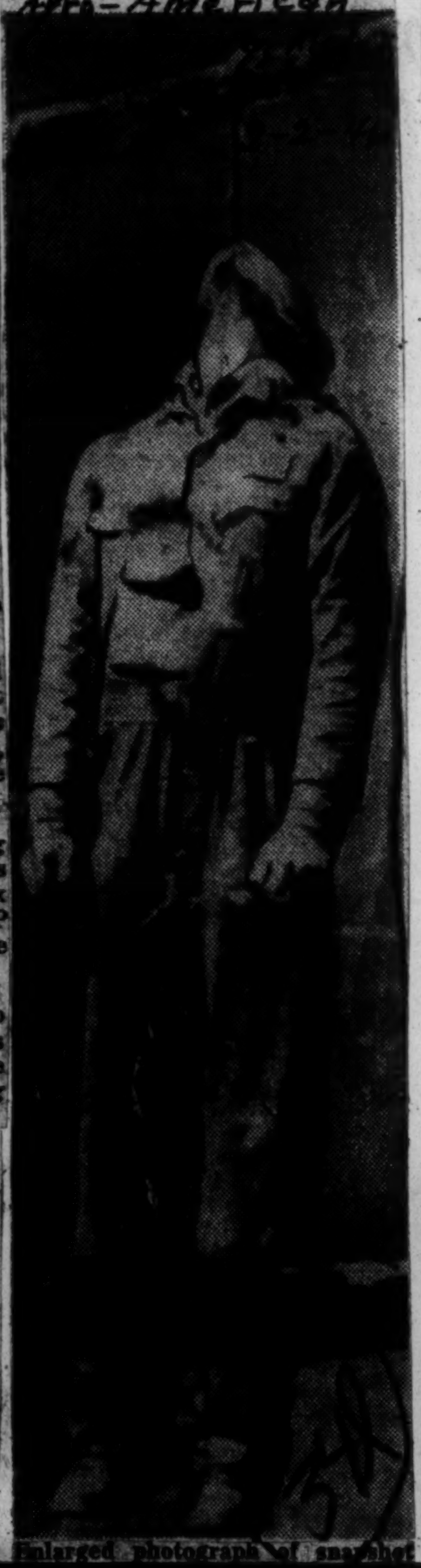
Florida Governor Sues Collier's

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., March 20 (AP)—Gov. Millard F. Caldwell filed a libel suit in the United States District Court here today asking $500,000 damages from Collier's magazine for editorial comments it made on the killing of a Negro awaiting trial at Madison last fall. The bill of complaint alleges that publication of the editorial "was maliciously and wickedly done with the intent of causing ridicule and contempt to be cast upon" the Governor.

Thur 3-21-46

Who Is This Man?

Afro-American



Enlarged photograph of snapshot

found in wallet in Nashville, Tenn., and turned over to NAACP officials who have asked Department of Justice to investigate to determine who the lynch victim is. He appears to be a soldier because he's wearing Army fatigue suit.

Identity of Mob Victim Is Sought

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Picture Discovered in Lost Pocketbook

2-2-46

FBI GIVEN CASE

Man Dressed in Army Fatigue Coverall

WASHINGTON

Who is this man? Where and when was he lynched? Have the lynchers been apprehended? These are the questions NAACP officials are seeking to answer this week following receipt of a wallet containing the picture shown on page 1 and identification cards.

The wallet containing the photograph of the lynched man was found in Nashville, Tenn., and turned over to the NAACP national office in New York, which in turn submitted it to its national bureau in Washington for investigation.

Last Friday, Leslie Perry, chief of the NAACP Washington Bureau, turned the wallet, with photograph and accompanying identification over to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, with a demand for an "immediate and vigorous investigation" of the lynching. 2-2-46

May Be Soldier

According to Perry, the picture appears to be that of a man dressed in Army fatigue clothes—possibly a soldier, but the NAACP had no record of a soldier being lynched in recent years.

Identification cards found along with the lynching picture indicate that the owner had at various times lived in the vicinity of Holt's Corner, Tenn., Athens, Tenn., and Appalachia Dam, N.C.

Also found in the wallet was a picture of a white woman and child, presumably the family of the pocketbook owner.

The picture shows a man of average height suspended from the limb of a tree by a rope tied around his neck. Enlargement of the photo failed to reveal any identifying facial or physical identification marks.

Beneath the man lying on the ground is a "Coulter" ambulance cot, covered with white linen. In the background sitting with their arms folded across their knees are two men whose identity is also not discernible. 2-2-46

Mr. Perry said he was convinced that the owner of the pocketbook either had participated in a lynching or knew some one who had. A full investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been asked.

Press Angers Fla.'s Governor

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

TAMPA, Fla.—Angered at what he termed "bad publicity" for the State, Gov. Millard Caldwell, on Feb. 13, soundly criticized two of Tampa's newspapers which had among other things condemned the State for a lynching.

The newspapers taken to task by the governor were the Morning and Evening Tribunes, both of which had printed editorials decrying negative aspects of Florida life.

Press Hits Lynching

One of the facts criticized in the press was that Florida was the only State in which a lynching had occurred in 1946. Another was that the State's prisoners are "stuffed into sweat-boxes" such as should not be tolerated in a civilized community.

Sat 2-23-46

While refuting these criticisms in his speech (he said a lynching was not a lynching because there was no mob or confusion), the governor, himself, gave the State another black eye.

Institutions "Barbaric"

In discussing State welfare institutions, he admitted that only $2 per year is spent on upkeep for an inmate, and bluntly stated that institutions were "not fit for cattle."

Judge Lynch From Virginia

P.M. New York, N.Y.

PM Reviews

THE VIRGINIAN, a Paramount film at the Paramount; with Joel McCrea, Sonny Tufts, Barbara Britton, Brian Donlevy, Fay Bainter, Tom Tully, Henry O'Neill, Bill Edwards, William Frawley, Paul Guilfoyle, Marc Lawrence and Vince Barnett; screenplay by Albert E. Hackett, Frances Goodrich and Edward E. Paramore Jr., from the novel by Owen Wister; directed by Stuart Gilmore.

Thurs 4-18-46

The *Virginian*, as novel, play and recurrent flicker, has been getting along famously for 30 or 40 years without any help from me, so I have a notion these few harsh words won't have much effect on its future.

The version at the Paramount, in Technicolor this time, is its fourth time out as a movie—1914, 1923, 1929 and 1946. This is the first version I have seen, but I have no doubt that the others were very like it as far as story content goes. Therefore I am assuming that in each version the redoubtable Virginian has played judge and executioner at the climactic lynching of the story's three rustlers, despite the fact that there is a sheriff in those parts in the story; and that the propriety of the lynching has been justified as vehemently as it is currently at the Paramount.

Consequently I am driven to the circumstantial conviction that *The Virginian*, recurring with its outlawed frontier philosophies at conveniently spaced intervals in our more civilized times, has been at least an accessory to the fact that lynching is still a rather heroically regarded recourse in impressionable areas throughout our land.

Of course I could be 'way off base because perhaps I may be unreasonably hopped up against lynching in any form. The Legion of Decency, for example, lists the film as "unobjectionable for general patronage." The Schools Motion Picture Committee of the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, Inc., recommends it as "suitable for children between the ages of 8 and 14." Nevertheless, I think I will stay off base on this one. I don't want to be a party to recommending to schoolkids or anybody else either the details of or arguments for lynching, in any era.

As the 1946 Virginian, Joel McCrea is a rather workaday and not at all glamorous hero (and lyncher). Barbara Britton is not as attractive as usual as his schoolmarm sweetheart; Sonny Tufts is properly carefree, even with a rope around his neck, as the Virginian's erring pal; and Brian Donlevy is as black as they come in Technicolor as the head villain of the rustler band. Beyond that, deponent saith nuts. —JOHN T. MCMANUS

GOV. CALDWELL SUES MAGAZINE

The Birmingham Age Herald
Birmingham, Ala.
Thur. 3-21-46

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., March 20—(AP)—Alleging that harm done him by an editorial in Collier's magazine "will continue against him throughout the remainder of his life," Gov. Caldwell today filed a libel suit against publishers of the weekly asking $500,000 damages.

The bill of complaint, filed in the U. S. District Court here, alleges that an editorial on the killing of a Negro awaiting trial on charges of attempted rape "was maliciously and wickedly done with the intent of causing ridicule and contempt to be cast upon" Caldwell.

The comment, which appeared in the Feb. 23 issue of Collier's, dealt with the governor's statements regarding the death of Jesse James Payne, Negro who was taken from an unguarded Madison County jail and shot while under indictment on charges of attempting to rape a 5-year-old white girl.

Caldwell has announced that any proceeds from the suit will go to the state-operated agricultural and mechanical college for Negroes. Julius F. Parker, member of the law firm of Parker and Foster which is handling the litigation, said the governor was paying expenses of the suit from his own pocket and that state funds were not being used. Thur. 3-21-46

In the suit, Caldwell contends the editorial falsely depicted him as "an individual acting as the governor of a sovereign state, as approving the action of an alleged mob in taking from the protection of the law a Negro charged with rape and killing him." He alleged the damage done by the editorial will affect him for the rest of his life "in his personal, professional and political affairs."

The governor has maintained since Payne's death that there was no evidence of mob action in the slaying and the incident could not properly be termed a lynching.

Gov. Caldwell Libel Suit

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Crowell-Collier's Publishing Company has asked Federal District Court to dismiss the $500,000 libel suit brought against Collier's by Florida Governor Millard Caldwell. Said the publishing company: "The editorial complained of concerned only statements made by the governor in his official capacity and are therefore not actionable in his individual capacity." Caldwell brought the suit against Collier's following an editorial criticizing him in connection with the lynching of a Negro of Florida. He termed the statement libelous, damaging and detrimental to his character.

Electric Chair Lynching Ends Mississippi Love Affair

Afro-American. 34L

7409

By CARDELL W. McVICKERS

INDIANOLA, Miss.—Mississippi's first lynching by electricity was disclosed last week with the arrival at a funeral home here of the badly charred body of 28-year-old Alonzo Rush. Rush was "electrocuted" by a posse of Sunflower county officers on charges of having intimate relations with an unidentified white woman. The woman had previously blocked all attempts to prosecute Rush on attack charges, after she admitted that he had been her lover for four years. All attempts to make her testify against him proved futile.

She was not permitted to attend the "kangaroo court" trial held for Rush deep in the nearby bayou. All persons were excluded from the trial except white men. When Rush's body reached the undertaker's here, it bore evidences of the sadistic revenge perpetrated by the mob, before he had been put to death in a home-made electric chair.

Electricity of high voltage had passed through the body for about five minutes. The scalp where the cap fitted was cooked thoroughly in barbecue fashion. Flesh around the knee, where the knee band was placed, was cooked to the bone. The same horrible condition was evident near the waist where the electrodes were fastened.

Enraged citizens here describe Rush's electrocution as the most "monstrous crime ever committed in the Delta area." Sat 5-11-46

No rape charge could be placed against him because the white woman stated that he had not persuaded her or forced her into having relations with him over the four-year period. She wanted to do what she did, she definitely told county officers. Baltimore

Under Mississippi's laws, had Rush been tried and convicted, the maximum sentence he could have been given would have been two years in the State prison for fornication and adultery. Md.

The Rush case has spurred both white and colored citizens to save the life of another prisoner, who probably faces the same fate before the same "kangaroo court" that was Rush's.

His death is reported to be scheduled for the early part of June, but may be set back to sometime in May, depending on how intensive are efforts to save him.

Leaders here have made a special appeal to the NAACP and all progressive organizations to send telegrams to Mississippi's Gov. Bailey, Attorney General Tom Clark, the Department of Justice, Washington, and President Truman.

Sat 5-11-46

Full facts and details surrounding the arrest, indictment and trial of the unidentified prisoner have not been revealed. He faces trial in the unofficial "kangaroo court" on charges of having had intimate relations with a white woman.

TEN HELD IN HOMICIDE

Times 12-14-46-Sat.

JAMAICA MAN BEATEN FATALLY IN BRAWL IN BAR.

New York, N.Y.

34l N.Y.

Ten men were arrested on charges of homicide in Jamaica, Queens, yesterday, in connection with the fatal beating of Albert Goodis, 42 years old, a roofer, of 106-15 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, on Thursday night, in a bar and grill at 106-35 Sutphin Blvd.

Eight of the men were held without bail in Queens Felony Court, for a hearing next Thursday. Later in the day, two others were picked up and lodged in the Queens City Prison, Long Island City, for a hearing today on homicide charges. Times 12-14-46-Sat.

Police said Goodis, the father of two children, had been drinking beer and became boisterous and profane. A customer objected to Goodis' profanity in the presence of his woman companion and allegedly summoned his friends by telephone. New York, N.Y.

Land of No Lynching

34l N.Y.

The News and Courier

A man named Albert Goodis, a roofer, 42 years old, who had two children, was beaten to death in a barroom. Ten men, mark the number, ten, have been arrested and are charged with the "homicide".

This was in Jamaica in the borough of Queens, a part of the city of New York. The crime was committed last Thursday night, and we read of it at the bottom of a column in a three-inch story under a two-section headline on page eight of The New York Times. This we quote: "A customer objected to Goodis's profanity in the presence of his woman companion and allegedly summoned his friends by telephone".

If the allegation be true, the "customer" summoned a mob, the mob responded and put Goodis to death. Charleston, S.C.

"Lynching" is a matter of locality. Mob murder in New York is not lynching. Were a man having a grievance against a negro in the neighborhood of Monroe, Georgia, to summon ten friends by telephone and they should respond and beat the negro to death it would be a "lynching". For the shooting of four negroes near that town a few months ago was no excuse. It was cowardly. It was an abominable crime. It was a lynching. Tues. 12-17-46

Lynching is a matter of locality. When a mob assembles in New York city, in response to telephone calls and beats a man to death it is relatively trivial news, eighth page news.

While it may be that the allegations about the death of Goodis in the borough of Queens are not true, it is certain that, if they are true, no suspicion of a lynching has been aroused in the offices of New York's newspapers.

In Our Common Country

The News and Courier

Conditions in New York city, particularly in its Harlem district, are a national problem. The people of Charleston, of the state of South Carolina and neighboring states, have reason to be concerned about them and their forward looking citizens and their press should lend aid that they can to bring about improvement. 34l N.Y.

There is a Southern Welfare conference. Its members should not forget that New York and Harlem are part of their country from which will be no secession. The South would resist an attempt at secession by New York, the question of secession having been solved at Appomattox in 1865.

Leaders of the stamp of President Graham, Clark Foreman, Esq. and Governor Arnall, by going to Harlem, giving personal study to its problems and advising the New York leaders, could accomplish something in their behalf. Charleston, S.C.

How bad the conditions are is thus described in a paragraph in an editorial of The New York Herald Tribune:

"In a general way practically everybody knows what is going on in East Harlem, and some other areas for that matter. The answer was given in the words of our reporter, Mr. Joseph Driscoll, who described this problem spot as 'that terribly overcrowded area where children play in the streets by day and by night, sluggers operate on the sidewalks, muggers in the doorways, and gamblers, white slavers and narcotic peddlers upstairs'. The Scottoriggio case has turned the spotlight directly on this situation." Thurs. 12-19-46

In our part of the country conditions are far from what they should be and call for constant attention, vigilance and exertion to reform them, but we Southerners would be foolish to neglect the problems of other parts of our common country.

Last week it was published, in a modest way on page 8 of The New York Times, that a man who took offense at the profanity of a person in a barroom by telephone summoned ten men who responded and beat to death the offender. (The man who summoned the mob had a woman companion, in the barroom.) While that does not come within the definition of "lynching" in New York it was a lynching, if the published allegations be true, by Southern definition.

Respectable Southern people denounce lynching and lynchers. Lynchers are cowardly murderers whether the mob be composed of Georgia crackers or of New Yorkers. Charleston, S.C. 12-19-46

Was the Republican Lynched?

The News and Courier

Opinion is general in New York that the murder of the Republican political worker, Joseph Scottoriggio, in the early morning hours of election day, was "political". Newspapers of New York, condemning it in unmeasured terms, have to this time neglected to say whether or not the man was lynched.

Three or four men have been arrested on suspicion or as witnesses. Nothing has appeared that informs whether the man was attacked by four or 24 thugs.

In the federal "anti-lynching bill" that failed to pass a few years ago, a killing by three or more persons came within the bill's definition of lynching. Scottoriggio did not die instantly. He lived a day or two. Victims of lynchings do not invariably die instantly, in a Southern state.

In the important particular that it was "political", the murder in Mr. Marcantonio's district, on "the edge of Harlem's underworld", differed from the murder of the negroes near Monroe, Georgia. That was a cowardly and cruel crime, though not political. Louisville, Ky.

In neither of these cases have the criminals been brought to justice.

It would not be fair for The News and Courier to say unqualifiedly, in the absence of convincing evidence, that the New York crime was a lynching. Tues. 12-3-46

Had the victim been a Republican worker in South Carolina that is what it would have been by allegation and definition of the "liberal" politicians and press.

Was Scottoriggio Lynched?

The News and Courier 34l

While The News and Courier is without evidence upon which to allege that Joseph Scottoriggio of the 18th congressional district, New York city, was lynched, the New Yorkers are not disproving that he was mobbed, lynched, as he went to the polls November 5. He was a political worker. No political lynching occurred in Mississippi election day, or during the political campaign. None occurred in the South. Probably nowhere in the South is a locality so abandoned to vice as that which The Herald Tribune of New York has mentioned as "the edge of the Harlem underworld", of which Vito Marcantonio, "Democratic party candidate", is the successful representative.

Charleston, S.C. Fri. 12-[illegible]-46

Other Men's Opinions

The News and Courier

CIVIL RIGHTS IN NEW YORK

(From The Columbia State)

34l

Representative L. Mendel Rivers has demanded that the attorney general of the United States investigate the fatal slugging on election day of a New York City Republican district captain. This, the congressman wired Mr. Clark, was "an act of gangsterism". If it had happened in the South it probably would have been called a lynching regardless of how few people participated. The congressman said the crime was a "violation of civil rights more serious than any I've seen down here". He called attention to the fact that the man was on the way to the polls when waylaid by lawless New York elements. Charleston, S.C.

The State doesn't think the federal government has any business messing in purely local matters down here or in New York either but it doesn't see how Attorney General Clark can consistently invade the rights of states down this way and do not do so in New York. So we shall await with interest his reply to Congressman Rivers.

If such a thing had happened in South Carolina to a worker for a Republican, you can bet the attorney general would be all aroused, and that various agencies styling themselves as defenders of civil rights, but interested mostly in what goes on in the South, would be yelling for the federal government to act. Will they join Mr. Rivers in asking intervention by the government in this ugly New York case? Sun. 11-17-46

Mob Law in New York

34l N.Y.

The News and Courier

Were a member of Columbians, Inc., a society having headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, to summon by telephone a number of his fellow members to meet him in a "dive" and they should respond and join him in beating to death a negro, would it be a lynching? Although The Times, New York democratic newspaper printed near the bottom of its eighth page under a two line caption that 10 men had been arrested and charged with beating to death a man in a barroom in New York city, borough of Queens, after they had been summoned by telephone, it avoids use of the word "lynching". We have seen no later reference to the "homicide" in The Times or other newspaper of New York. If the allegations about the homicide be true, the killing of the man was of a kind with the barbarous murder of four negroes near Monroe, Georgia. Granting, for the sake of discussion, that murder by a mob is not a lynching unless it be in a Southern state, The News and Courier again stresses that the people of the South should assist the New Yorkers in suppressing "mob law". These United States are our common country, and men of good will in all parts of the country should exert themselves to suppress mob law in every part of it.

Charleston, S.C. Sun. 12-22-46

7408

34L 1946 South Carolina (Note: Killing, accidental) Negroes, by Negroes 7410

NAACP INVESTIGATES
ALLEGED LYNCHING

3/7/46 – Thursday

NAACP Press Release New York, N.Y.

34L S.C.

Augusta, Ga.:--Further investigation on the reported lynching of a colored man at Elko, South Carolina, near here, is being conducted by the Augusta branch of the NAACP, according to Reverend G. H. Carter, president.

The case was first reported to the New York office of the NAACP by a man who drove through Elko and sent word from Atlanta.

According to a story circulating here, the dead man, recently discharged from the Navy, had followed his wife from New York to her home in Elko to try to effect a reconciliation. They had an argument in her home and the husband is said to have left in the company of two of his wife's brothers. The brothers were reported to have returned later without their sister's husband. The next morning the body was found hanging near the road.

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ynching Rumor
ased on Slaying

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

ELKO, S.C.—The lifeless body discovered hanging from a rope strung to a crudely constructed cross near here Thursday was not a lynch victim as was widely reported, but was that of a slain navy veteran. 3-16-46

The dead man was identified as Raymond Reed, an ex-sailor, Barnwell County Sheriff Jeff Black disclosed, Monday. The sheriff also told that he has placed persons suspected of killing Reed in custody. Saturday

Those facing hearing, the sheriff stated, are Reed's estranged wife, Doris, her two brothers, Jack and George Roland and their 63-year-old mother, Eliza Roland.

The wife told Sheriff Black that her brothers strangled Reed in a fight at 2:30 a.m., Thursday. It is believed they hung his body up to make it appear that he had committed suicide. Persons seeing the body hanging circulated lynch rumors.

Sheriff Black's explanation of circumstances surrounding the death of the 30-year-old veteran whose lifeless body was found at dawn Thursday morning dangling from a rope strung to a crudely constructed cross a few feet from the town's principal highway, was simultaneous with his announcement of the arrest of four persons, held on suspicion of murder.

Doris Reed, estranged wife of the dead man; her 63-year-old mother, Eliza Roland, and two brothers, Jack Roland, 32, and George Roland, 30, were the quartet held. 3-16-46

Sheriff Black quoted Mrs. Reed as saying that a family argument followed Reed's arrival at the home around 2:30 a.m. Thursday morning and was continued out into the yard where Reed and the Roland brothers engaged in a fight. A short time later, she is quoted as saying, the two brothers returned inside and stated Reed had died from strangulation, but that they had not intended to kill him—only to subdue him. 3-16-46

The frightened men, according to Sheriff Black's version, are said to have tied the body's neck to the rope and strung it up to simulate suicide. However, both men have persistently denied any knowledge of the death.

Vet's Murder Looks Like Lynching, S.C. Town In Uproar

Sat. Chicago Defender 34L

ELKO, S. C.—(ANP)—The slaying of navy veteran Raymond Reed, allegedly by in-laws, held in custody by the Barnwell County sheriff, tipped off the widespread report of a lynching here last, Sheriff Jeff Black said Monday.

Reports Lynching At Elko, S.C.

Witness 'Positive' He Saw Mob Scene

Chicago Defender 34L

ATLANTA—(ANP) — A South Carolina social work institution executive reported last week upon arrival in Atlanta that he and his wife witnessed the lynching of a Negro man at Elko, S. C., while passing through the small village two days previously.

Asking that his name not be used in connection with a news story, the South Carolinian said he was driving from Charleston to Augusta, Ga., when forced to slow down by a large crowd gathered before a railroad shack to the left of the highway at Elko. In the midst of the crowd and suspended by the neck on a rope from what appeared to be an improvised two-by-four scaffold at the top of the shack was a well dressed Negro man, it was stated.

About 40 white persons, mostly men, stood under the hanged man, and about 50 feet away stood about a dozen Negroes, all women and children, who appeared in a frightened state, the informant noted.

Witness 'Positive' 3-9-46

It was added further that the lynched man appeared to be in his 30s and was tall and well proportioned in build.

The informant said he would have stopped at the scene, but for his wife who insisted that since no Negro men were there, his presence might cause more trouble and jeopardy to his life.

Attempts to verify the lynching from nearby South Carolina cities failed. The New York national office of the NAACP was notified and urged to make an immediate investigation.

The "witness" said he was positive that he saw a Negro man hanging before the throng in Elko. Sat

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"Lynching" Turns Out S. C. Family Affair

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. 3-6-46 Wed.

COLUMBIA, S. C. — (SNS) — Sheriff Jeff Black, of Barnwell county, reported four suspects held in connection with the death of ex-sailor Raymond Reed at Elko, S. C. last week whose body was discovered in the wee hours of dawn dangling at the end of a rope from what appeared to be a crudely constructed cross. 3-6-46

The four are Doris Reed, estranged wife of the veteran, her mother, Eliza Roland, 63, and two brothers of the wife, Jack Roland, 32 and George Roland, 30.

Sheriff Black said the wife had confessed that a family argument followed arrival of the estranged husband at the family home early Thursday morning and continued out into the yard where her brother engaged in a dispute with the dead man A short time afterwards the woman is quoted as saying the brothers re-entered the house and reported Reed had died of choking during a struggle, but said they had not intended to kill him.

In fright, the brothers, allegedly in order to avert suspicious as to the actual cause of death, hanged the body on the cross so that appearance of suicide might be made. It was discovered at dawn by passersby. 3-6-46

The brothers, however, maintained innocence and asserted they knew nothing of how Reed died.

Passersby, noting the dangling body, easily viewed from a nearby highway, helped to spread the "lynch" rumor. In Elkoa itself, a small town of 200 people, colored men did not brave out until the sheriff's office effected the arrests and cleared somewhat the mystery of Reed's death. 3-6-46 Wed.

A Lynching, Nonetheless

Merely because all Negroes were involved in the sordid slaying of Raymond Reed, returned sailor and serviceman, in Barnwell County, South Carolina recently, is no reason why it should not be classed for what it is—a lynching in its strictest sense. Daily World 34L

According to Barnwell County Sheriff, Reed's death is the result of an argument, following a visit to the home of his estranged wife. The record shows that his wife, his mother-in-law and two brother-in-laws, all of whom were present at the home, admit that a fight had ensued and that the dead man may have died from choking. It is not clear how his body happened to be seen dangling from a tree nearby. Atlanta, Ga. Sun. 3-10-46

It is perhaps a bit early to place the blame in this strange and gruesome slaying. That responsibility rests with investigating officials. But we would be disloyal to the high calling of our profession, unfaithful to the cause of decency and fairplay to all men of whatever race, and untrue to the trust reposed in us by our servicemen, if we should hesitate, for even a moment, in insisting that the guilty shall pay for this death to the fullest exactions of the law. For there is absolutely no place anywhere in this country for that sort of behavior. It is revolting to the conscience of all people whose spirits approach a sense of sanity and decency. 3-10-46 Sun. Daily World

South Carolina:

34 S.C.

"Lynch" Report Clouds Death of Navy Veteran

Pittsburg Courier

Pittsburg Pa.

ELKO, S. C.—(ANP)—The slaying of Navy veteran Raymond Reed, allegedly by in-laws, held in custody by the Barnwell County sheriff, tipped off the widespread report of a lynching here, Sheriff Jeff Black said Monday. Sheriff Black's explanation of circumstances surrounding the death of the thirty-year-old veteran whose lifeless body was found at dawn Thursday morning dangling from a rope strung to a crudely constructed cross a few feet from the town's principal highway, was simultaneous with his announcement of the arrest of four persons, held on suspicion of murder.

Doris Reed, estranged wife of the dead man; her sixty-three-year-old mother, Eliza Roland, and two brothers, Jack Roland, 32, and George Roland, 30, were the quartet held.

Sat 3-16-46

WIFE BLAMES BROTHERS

Sheriff Black quoted Mrs. Reed as saying that a family argument followed Reed's arrival at the home around 2 30 Thursday morning and was continued out into the yard where Reed and the Roland brothers engaged in a fight. A short time later, she is quoted as saying, the two brothers returned inside and stated Reed had died from strangulation, but that they had not intended to kill him—only to subdue him.

The frightened men, according to Sheriff Black's version, are said to have tied the body's neck to the rope and strung it up to simulate suicide. However, both men have persistently denied and knowledge of the death. The body was discovered at daybreak and this little town of 206 persons jumped to life as only small towns can over a report of a lynching, the only plausible explanation in the light of available information and circumstances.

Most of the day, it was difficult to see a single colored male resident. Passersby, seeing the dangling body, around which milled half-a-hundred curious white men awaiting its removal by officials, hurried on their way, spreading as they went the story of a lynching which probably wasn't a lynching in the acceptance of the term.

Reed, like Walker, was brought from the same place in Blackville, seven miles away, to the same place in Elko. Reed was stopping with his in-laws, the Roland family; Walker visited the Rolands.

Like Walter, Reed purchased some beer in the Craig place, which is in front of and adjoining the Walker home, and was hauled home in the same car which later hauled Walker home. Both men's bodies were taken to the same undertaker at Blackville.

'Family' Slaying Strangely Similar

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

ELKO, S.C. — Although settled as a "family affair," the slaying of Raymond Reed, 30-year-old former seaman, in February followed incidents strangely similar to those preceding the lynching of James Walker on Aug. 12.

34

Reed's body was found dangling from a rope and cross on Highway 78, exactly one mile from the Walker home. A brother-in-law is serving three years on Barnwell County chain gang for the murder. Sat. 8-24-46

Same People, Same Places